FBIS DAILY REPORT

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LIBYA REQUESTS POSTPONEMENT OF ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL

JN241723 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Tunis,--The Libyan Jamahiriah has requested the Arab League General Secretariat to postpone the emergency meeting of the league council until 1 March. The Syrian Arab News Agency correspondent in the Tunisian capital has learned that the Syrian permanent representative to the Arab League has informed the General Secretariat of Syria's approval of the postponement. The emergency meeting was scheduled to take place on Tuesday.

'ARAFAT CONFERS WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON 23 FEB

JN231824 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT 23 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Beirut, 23 February--PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met today with Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Aleksandr Soldatov. The Palestinian news agency says that during the meeting the two sides reviewed the latest developments in the region.

Friendship Societies Sign Agreement

NC221746 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Aragic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 22 Feb 80 NC

[Excerpt] The Union of Soviet Socieities for Friendship and Cooperation With Foreign Countries and the Soviet Committee of Friendship and Solidarity With the Arab Peoples of Palestine signed a cultural and technical cooperation agreement and 1980-81 executive program with the Palestinian-Soviet friendship committee today. The agreement was signed at the society's office in Damascus.

The agreement was signed on the Palestinian side by brother Abu Mazin, chairman of the society and member of the Fatah Central Committee, and on the Soviet side by Comrade Yuriy Barabash, chairman of the Soviet Committee of Friendship and Solidarity With the Arab Peoples of Palestine and first deputy minister of culture in the Soviet Union.

The signing was attended on the Palestinian side by brother 'Abdallah Hurani, director general of the PLO Information and Culture Department, and the brother members of the committee's secretariat. The signing was attended on the Soviet side by the Soviet ambassador in Damscus and (Dr Araki), member of the Soviet delegation.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES PDRY CHARGE, ARAB AMERICANS, ETHIOPIAN MESSAGE

NC240645 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 24 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Yesterday evening, the leader of the PLO Executive Committee, brother Abu 'Ammar, received the PDRY charge d'affaires in Beirut. Brother Abu 'Ammar received a message from the secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party, Comrade 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, who is also the chairman of the People's Supreme Assembly.

Yesterday, brother Abu 'Ammar also received a message from the chairman of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, on the latest developments in the Middle East, as well as a delegation from the Arab community in the United States. The delegation included members of the Arab-American Society under the chairmanship of Mike (Saba), who will be running in the U.S. congressional elections. During the meeting, the latest developments in the Arab region were reviewed.

VOP: 'ARAFAT ADDRESSES DPFLP RALLY IN BEIRUT 24 FEB

NC241730 [Clandestine] Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World
1515 GMT 24 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar today delivered an important political speech at a public rally held at Beirut Arab University on the 12th anniversary of the establishment of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DPFLP]. In his speech brother leader Abu 'Ammar greeted the DPFLP. He then strongly attacked the normalization of relations between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity, saying that it is a normalization of relations among traitors and conspirators and that the Egyptian masses have nothing to do with this treasonous process.

Referring to the Zionist threats and warnings against the Palestinian revolution, brother leader Abu 'Ammar said: I challenge them in the name of the joint forces. We will not be alone; the Iranian revolutionaries and all free men in the world will be with us.

PLO DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN ABDUCTION OF LEBANESE JOURNALIST

NC250657 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World
0530 GMT 25 Feb 80 NC

[Undated statement by PLO information source--read by announcer]

[Text] Several news agencies and radio stations have reported that the abducted Lebanese journalist, Salim al-Lawzi, was transferred to Ad-Damur yesterday.

The PLO, which denies any knowledge whatsoever about the abduction of journalist Salim al-Lawzi, wishes to affirm that these rumors are aimed at insinuating that there is a connection between the PLO and its groups with this incident.

PLO REPORTS ARRIVAL OF PALESTINIAN PRISONERS IN BEIRUT

NC250654 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World
0530 GMT 25 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Two Palestinian strugglers, William Nassar and Muhammad Mahdi Busaysu, arrived in Beirut last night after their release from the Zionist prisons in exchange for Zionist spy Aminah al-Mufti. The exchange took place in Larnaca. The two strugglers were received at the airport by a representative of brother leader Abu 'Ammar and a number of cadres of the Palestinian revolution.

PLO'S QADDUMI RECEIVES YUGOSLAV ENVOY IN LEBANON

LD210048 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1728 GMT 20 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Beirut--Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, has received Radmilo Trojanovic, SFRY ambassador in Lebanon, in Beirut.

In a lengthy friendly conversation, Qaddumi and Trojanovic exchanged opinions on international issues, particularly the situation in the Middle East. Satisfaction at the development of Yugoslav-Palestinian relations was expressed.

Qaddumi asked in particular about the health of President Tito, and asked that the cordial greetings and best wishes of the Palestinian people be conveyed to the Yugoslav president.

BAHRAIN

FOREIGN MINISTER OPPOSES GRANTING OF BASES

NC221905 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1846 GMT 22 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Paris, 22 February--Bahraini Minister of Foreign Affairs Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah has told the weekly magazine AL-MUSTAQBAL that granting military facilities to any superpower does not serve efforts in the area to stress the region's independence and neutrality and keep it out of international conflicts.

In his statement, published in Paris today, the Bahraini minister said: No one in the Gulf area supports any step to grant military facilities or bases in the area for foreign powers. The Bahraini minister pointed out that the danger of conflicts between the two superpowers has become more likely in the Gulf area.

The Bahraini minister welcomed the national charter Iraq recently proposed, saying: This charter includes positive points that actually serve Arab solidarity and our efforts to keep the Arab homeland away from the spheres of influence.

The Bahraini minister said his country is currently holding domestic consultations to revive parliamentary activity.

PDRY

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES ADEN ON VISIT TO LIBYA

LD242217 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Feb 80 LD/EA

[Text] Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, candidate member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, left Aden today for Libya on a visit during which he will deliver a message from brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, the secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Peoples Council, to his brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the September Revolution.

Before leaving Aden International Airport, brother Salim Salih Muhammad stated that his visit to fraternal Libya was part of a series of meetings and joint consultations on developments in the Arab region, where the dangers of imperialism, Zionism and As-Sadat were on the increase, as well as a series of plots against the just causes of our people. The brother foreign minister stressed the need to mobilize all Arab resources and efforts and to consolidate anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist Arab solidarity to eliminate these plots and achieve successes and victories for our Arab peoples. Brother Salim Salih Muhammad said he hoped for further progress in the development of Libyan-PDRY relations so as to achieve the goals and hopes of the Arab peoples.

In his statement the brother foreign minister declared that he and his delegation would attend the emergency meeting of the Arab League Council to be held in Tunis. He said: We look forward to the discussion at the meeting on the issues to be placed before it and hope that the participants will deal objectively, wisely and in harmony with the pan-Arab aspirations for our common Arab struggle against our principal foes.

He went on to say: At the meeting we should reflect the principle of anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist Arab solidarity, which is also opposed to the agents of imperialism and Zionism, in order to face the threats of imperialist military interference in our countries' affairs and thwart the enemy design to dismember the unity of our Arab nation, dissipate its efforts, drag it away and divert it from its fundamental causes so as to facilitate the implementation of the Camp David conspiracy hatched by imperialism, Zionism and the treacherous As-Sadat regime. He stressed our country's effective participation in the work of the Arab League and the promotion of its political, economic and national roles during this fateful phase in the life of our Arab nation.

The brother foreign minister was seen off at the airport by brother Abdulali 'Abd ar-Rahman, deputy foreign minister; the Libyan ambassador in Aden and a number of officials.

SAUDI ARABIA

PRINCE FAHD MAKES STATEMENT ON AFGHANISTAN, PALESTINE, OIL

LD231156 Riyadh SAUDI PRESS AGENCY (SPA) in Arabic 0740 GMT 23 Feb 80 LD

[Source formerly identified as "SNA"]

[Text] Riyadh--Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd declared that there is only one way to solve the Palestine question, and that is by resotring all their lawful rights to the Palestinian people, including, of course, their right to self-determination and to live in security like all other peoples within an independent homeland. He stressed that division would be useless and beating about the bush regarding this clear right would only complicate the issue and solve nothing.

In his statement to LE FIGARO of France, which was also published by AR-RIYAD, the prince covered a number of current issues including the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, and its dimensions, the danger of communist infiltration, oil and relations between the Saudi people and the government.

Prince Fahd emphasized that the events in Afghanistan showed that the Soviet Union has long-term aims in the region. He said those who try to interfere in the affairs of other countries find it in their interest always to foster instability and social, political and intellectual disintegration so that they may create for themselves an opportunity for intervention. He added: We in the kingdom have affirmed our faith, values and ancient traditions. We do not need to import slogans and ideologies. He further stressed that the kingdom is opposed to communism because Islam rejects it and because we do not see in it any good for any of the fields of human activity. However, as far as the kingdom is concerned, it does not interfere in the affairs of others nor does it try to impose any particular option on anyone. The kingdom's reply to attempts at fostering instability lies in persistently working to promote political, social and economic stability and in resisting alien and subversive ideologists.

The crown prince added that what concerns us, as far as the motives of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan are concerned, is what affects us directly, whether from the standpoint of Islam, oil or the danger to world peace. He pointed out that the meeting held by the Islamic states in Islamabad was necessary because the recent Soviet move led to the occupation of an Islamic country, thus exposing other Islamic states to danger. For this reason it was necessary for those states to meet to consider the position and to take joint action to confront the overt danger.

He stressed that the kingdom depended only on itself to defend its people and interests and wanted help from no one to meet any aggression, but it buys modern weapons from its friends and is prepared to diversify the sources of its weapons so that it may benefit from every achievement in this field.

The prince said that the attitude of the United States toward events in Afghanistan is clear and we have no reason to doubt it. He added that he could not imagine that a strategy such as that conceived to challenge Soviet influence could be electioneering propaganda or inspired by considerations of such propaganda.

Prince Fahd emphasized that communism can only find a way into the region through tyranny, injustice and aggression. He said the injustices to which the Palestinians have been exposed at the hands of Israel, which is supported by the United States and the West generally, left them with no alternative but to seek help wherever they can find it. He said if we want to contain communism and alien influences, we should solve the Palestine question justly and comprehensively, so that no one will find himself compelled to seek assistance from those whom we fear may influence our principles. He stressed that the strength of any Arab country serves the interest and issues of the Arab nation generally, but if it is intended that this strength should threaten neighbors or any other Arab country, this the kingdom will not accept or overlook.

Prince Fahd further stressed that the Saudi Government always has as its aim the well-being of the people and it works diligently to meet all their needs. The reform programs have not ceased since the late King 'Abd al-'Aziz began to unify the various parts of the kingdom. The kingdom is also engaged in new development programs for further reforms in various fields. He went on to say that since its establishment the kingdom has never swerved from the task of carrying out the Islamic Shari'ah [code of law] and its rules. The relationship between the Saudi people and the government is one of family cohesion and kinship. The doors of the kingdom's rulers are always open to the people. He pointed out that it is an accepted tradition in the kingdom that the king should assign special days in the week for meeting ulema and members of the public so as to strengthen the ties of affection and to exchange views.

His highness added that the recent incident at the Holy Mosque found resistance and condemnation among all Saudi people. This is shown in the depth of their loyalty and attachment to the ruling (?family) and their deep sympathy with the government. It is also shown by the manifestations in which the people participated with the government to quash the sedition by a misled group which abused religious rights and sanctities.

Prince Fahd affirmed that the kingdom is making every effort to prevent a high rise in oil prices which would harm the world economy. Such a rise would in turn influence the kingdom, because it is part of the world economy. He said that the kingdom's oil production has increased in recent months, as is known, and oil is plentiful on world markets. He went on to say that the aim of the kingdom in its oil policy is neither to benefit the Russians nor to harm the West. He explained that the pricing process is connected with many considerations including, for instance, the terrific rise in the cost of services which are provided to us by the West, and also in the prices of manufactured goods, as well as rampant inflation.

He called on the West to make a major effort to correct the course of world economy insofar as the value of the dollar, inflation and the cost of goods and services are concerned, so that the kingdom may continue to play its moderating role in controlling oil prices. He also called on the West to work at the same time for diversifying its sources of energy.

He stressed that the kingdom attached high hopes to the role of France in attaining a just and total solution to the Palestine question in cooperation with the European Community, because France is one of the main European powers with a major political and economic influence.

Foreign Minister's Remarks

LD231224 Riyadh SAUDI PRESS AGENCY (SPA) in Arabic 0850 GMT 23 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has underlined the concern of the states of the region for their independence and their ability to shoulder the burden of protecting this independence from both internal and external aggression. He also stressed in his statement to LE FIGARO, published today in conjunction with AR-RIYAD, that the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan was a danger to the whole world and not only the Gulf region. He added that the Soviet invasion was dangerous to its ideology, method and consequences. He explained that the occupation by one of the major powers of an independent and United Nations member-state belonging to the Islamic community could only result in dire consequences. He called on all peace-loving states which stand for justice to face up to and oppose this action on all levels. He also called on them to help Afghanistan and the states of the region which are threatened, especially those adjacent to Afghanistan. He explained that this help should be confined to raising the capability of these states to protect their independence but not through military presence in them.

He pointed out that the Soviet Union has ambitions in this region which it wants to achieve by means of direct occupation. He said if the Soviet Union wants to strengthen any Arab state to enhance its defensive capability so that it can defend Arab interests, this in itself would not represent a danger because the strength of any Arab state is the strength of all.

Dealing with the policy of the kingdom, he said it was based on a foundation of independence in the full meaning of the word. He added that the kingdom builds its relations with other states on mutual interests and equality of treatment. He stressed that the kingdom does not aim at establishing exceptional relations with any group of states in the world. He further added that the kingdom has a large-scale armament program with France and other Western powers.

KING KHALID RECEIVES VISITORS IN HOSPITAL

LD241144 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Feb 80 LD

[Text] King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz this morning received at the specialized hospital a number of princes, ministers and citizens.

The doctors treating his majesty have described his health as good, and said that all tests have been reassuring, thank God. May God preserve his majesty and keep him fit and healthy.

MINISTER ON REASON FOR POSTPONEMENT OF BARRE VISIT

LD231048 Riyadh SAUDI PRESS AGENCY (SPA) in Arabic 0925 GMT 23 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani, minister of information, has denied a report punished by LE FIGARO that the postponement of the visit by French Prime Minister Raymond Barre to the kingdom was because of pressure from Libya.

In a statement to SPA, he said the real reason for the postponement was what was agreed between Crown Prince Fahd and Mr Raymond Barre--which was officially announced at the time in Riyadh and Paris--namely, the health condition of King Khalid.

UAE

JAPANESE SPECIAL ENVOY SONODA PAYS VISIT, HOLDS TALKS

Meeting With Oil Minister

OW210041 Tokyo KYODO in English 0035 GMT 21 Feb 80 OW

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Feb 20 KYODO--United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah accused the Soviet Union Wednesday of trying to lay its hands on oil fields in the Middle East and take its share in Arab oil. He condemned the Soviet armed invasion of Afghanistan, and said: "This is not the end of an event but the beginning... It (the Soviet action) has caused direct impact on the Gulf states."

Talking to Japanese journalists accompanying special envoy Sunao Sonoda, Al-'Utaybah said, "The Gulf states should first endeavor to defend themselves. But if the Soviets should come, we would ask our friends for help."

He warned the superpowers "to get their hands off this sensitive area and not to bring about problems into our area."

Al-'Utaybah, former president of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), said he was proposing that OPEC hold an extraordinary conference next month to try to reach a unified oil pricing system. He said the gaps in prices for oil of the same species should be narrowed to less than one dollar.

Al-'Utaybah, who talked with Sonoda earlier Wednesday, indicated that it would be some time before the Gulf states could open a direct dialogue with Japan. The oil minister said, "We are carefully preparing for such dialogue," which was first proposed by Sonoda when he was foreign minister. "We would need some more time," Al-'Utaybah added.

Al-'Utaybah said he was pleased that the relations between the UAE and Japan have been progressing in the right direction. He expressed hope that "our cooperative relations in oil, gas, agriculture and water resources" will be expanded further to cover social and political fields. He cited the need for the two countries to exchange visits by parliamentarians and sports teams.

Sonoda, Zayid Banquet Speeches

OW210221 Tokyo KYODO in English 0204 GMT 21 Feb 80 OW

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi Feb 21 KYODO--Japanese Special Envoy Sunao Sonoda and United Arab Emirates President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan Wednesday condemned the Soviet armed invasion of Afghanistan which they said posed "a grave threat" to peace not only in the Gulf states but the entire world. The two met for an hour Wednesday night at the Al-Ain Palace, 160 kilometers southeast of Abu Dhabi.

Their discussion covered Afghanistan, Mideast peace efforts, the Palestine issue and bilateral affairs, officials said. Sonoda handed a written message from Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira to the UAE president.

Sonoda, who arrived here Tuesday on the first leg of an eight-nation tour, told Shaykh Zayid that the purpose of his mission was to probe what role Japan can play in stabilizing the situation in the Gulf area. He called the Soviet action in Afghanistan intolerable and stressed the need for countries concerned to make a fresh resolve to seek peace in the Middle East, officials accompanying Sonoda said.

Saying that the Palestine problem must be solved to attain peace in the Middle East, Sonoda asked the UAE president to continue to act as a mediator in keeping contacts between Japan and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), they said. Shaykh Zayid strongly criticized the Soviet military action, likening it to "the strong bullying the weak," or "a flood washing down people and land," the officials said.

Sonoda invited the UAE president to visit Japan. The president thanked Sonoda for the invitation but said his visit would be hardly possible "in light of the present international situation," the officials said.

On bilateral relations, Sonoda emphasized the need of closer cooperation not only in economic fields but in political and cultural matters.

No 'Arafat Meeting

OW211101 Tokyo KYODO in English 0956 GMT 21 Feb 80 OW

[Text] Abu Dhabi Feb 21 KYODO--Special Japanese Envoy Sunao Sonoda said in Abu Dhabi Thursday he has given up hopes to meet with Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir 'Arafat during his current Middle East tour. Sonoda told newsmen he thinks it better for Japan to continue unofficial talks with the PLO through the mediation of the United Arab Emirates than for him to get in touch with PLO at this time.

The former foreign minister said negotiations to invite 'Arafat to visit Japan have been going on smoothly. He avoided saying when the PLO leader might visit Japan. Informed sources said Sonoda must have given up his plan to meet with 'Arafat because unofficial talks between Japanese Ambassador Ryohei Murata and a PLO official had not progressed enough. Sonoda also might have abandoned the plan not to displease the U.S., the sources said.

AS-SADAT ON CLIMATE OF FEAR OVER PEACE, ARMS 'RACE'

NC230955 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0750 GMT 23 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 23 February--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has stated that the policy on Palestinian autonomy and Jerusalem is a national line adopted by the Egyptian people, who seriously want to see it through. He said that had it not been for the October victory, the occupation of territory would have continued for 100 more years. He added that just as the October victory shocked Israel out of its arrogance and conceit, it also shocked Egypt out of its shame and humiliation.

President as-Sadat also said: My preocoupation is with peace and with all the steps that are necessary for its sake. It does not bother me if these steps are long or short or if we proceed and stumble. What is important to me is that we continue to march together toward this noble goal without stopping.

In a statement to the chief editor of OCTOBER weekly magazine, to be published in its Sunday, 24 February, edition, President as-Sadat expresses great hope that the October generation will be the generation of peace, not only between Egypt and Israel but also between Israel and the Arabs as well as among the Arabs themselves.

In his statement, President as-Sadat says that there are bound to be some among us who fear peace and who imagine that Israel will infiltrate all sectors of life in Egypt and that its businessmen will occupy all of Egypt. He adds: These all stem from the fact that we do not objectively view the new reality. This fear, instead of destroying the psychological barrier between Egypt and Israel, would make us erect barriers all around Egypt to protect us from the new Israeli occupation. Yielding to such fears, we forget that nobody has been or ever will be able to impose on us anything that we do not want. States that are bigger than Israel, states with whom we have old ties, did nothing of this sort over many years, so how could Israel do it in hours or days, and how could it outdo our own establishments while we sleep?

President as-Sadat emphasizes that merely thinking about this is an insult to ourselves and fosters the spirit of defeatism, which emerged after the 1967 war. He says he believes that the 1973 war cured the Egyptians of this fear, which was a disease that struck a few Egyptian intellectuals who tried to turn it into a chronic national disease.

President as-Sadat affirms that the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel is the sound course for peace.

Regarding the race between Egypt and Israel to obtain arms from the United States or other sources, and whether this is in harmony with peace, President as-Sadat says that it is an elementary military rule that we should always be prepared. He adds: Peace proceeds along with preparations for what might destroy it. Nobody knows what the future has in store. He says that Egypt's military preparation is not necessarily for its own self-defense. He stresses Egypt's readiness to defend its Arab brothers--which, he says, is Egypt's duty at all times.

President as-Sadat expresses astonishment at the emotionalism of some people. He strongly criticizes those who immaturely, unobjectively and superficially oppose the core of the issues, describing them as small people. He says: They are a feeble few within Egypt as well as professional traitors abroad, who know no shame; otherwise, there would be no need for a special law concerning them, which will be submitted to the parliamentary body on 2 March.

AS-SADAT MEETS ALEXANDRIA, AL-MINYA NDP REPRESENTATIVES

NC231544 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Feb 80 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has met with representatives of the National Democratic Party [NDP] of Alexandria and Al-Minya. The 2-hour meeting was attended by Vice President Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib, Deputy Prime Minister and NDP Secretary General Fikri Makram 'Ubayd, the ministers and the governors of Al-Minya and Alexandria.

Mansur Hasan, minister of state for the presidency and official in charge of culture and information [title as heard], has said that President Anwar as-Sadat outlined the most important current domestic and external questions. The president said that the purpose of the gathering is to hold party-family meetings to learn about various aspects of current policies in the domestic, Arab and international arenas and to follow up the basic task, which is building the NDP on a sound foundation.

The president asked each of the political leaders to hold similar meetings with the bases of the masses in his governorate to explain all the facts.

AS-SADAT ADDRESSES PHARMACISTS' DAY CEREMONIES 23 FEB

NC231132 [Editorial Report NC] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1002 GMT on 23 February the pharmacists' Day ceremonies in Cairo. At 1006 GMT, President Anwar as-Sadat begins a 7-minute speech in which he praises the happy occasion that has brought all of Egypt's pharmacists together. He says that pharmacists are providing Egypt with good health and that they participated in the liberation war as well as in raising Egypt's name in the Arab arena as the first pioneer of pharmacists. He says that the Egyptian pharmacists enjoy the appreciation of the entire world, of Egypt and of him personally. He urges that they continue building on the values of love and fraternity, recalling that there was a time when spite and emotion were rife in Egypt. He says that there are still a few among us who want to return Egypt to the state of grudges that existed before the July revolution. He then calls on those present to remain within the large Egyptian family so that the country can be rebuilt. He says that there will be no return to the era before the July revolution and no return to the centers of power. He concludes by asking God to guide the pharmacists in their building tasks and again conveys Egypt's appreciation of what they have done in the liberation battles and in the current building phase. The live relay ends at 1013 GMT.

KHALIL RECEIVES REPORT ON AUTONOMY NEGOTIATIONS

NC231925 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 23 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Ambassadors 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif and Mamduh 'Abd ar-Raziq, heads of the Egyptian side to the autonomy negotiations committees, presented a comprehensive report today to Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil on their results of the two subcommittees' meetings.

Our correspondent has learned that the two committees failed to achieve positive results on the subjects discussed and that there are differences between the Egyptian and the Israeli views. The meeting of the heads of the three delegations, which is due to be held in The Hague Wednesday, will discuss the main questions of the autonomy and ways to overcome the problems hindering the achievement of full autonomy for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza.

Our correspondent has also learned that the Egyptian delegation demanded at the sub-committee meeting that the necessary guarantees be provided for the freedom of political expression in the occupied Arab territory, freedom of movement and the holding of free elections for full autonomy.

The Egyptian delegation expressed dissatisfaction with the Israeli authorities' measures against the West Bank mayors, explaining that they are inconsistent with the necessary guarantees for the Palestinians in the occupied Arab territory.

UN DELEGATE CONDEMNS ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS POLICY

NC230709 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 23 Feb 80 NC

[Excerpt] The Arab countries have called on the Security Council to impose sanctions on Israel because it is continuing its aggressive policy of establishing settlements in the occupied Arab land.

Egyptian permanent delegate to the United Nations 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, addressed the Security Council, saying: Although Egypt is concerned about achieving a comprehensive peace in the Middle East based on the Camp David agreements, it nevertheless condemns Israel's settlements policy. He said that the Egyptian Government was carefully studying the repercussions that would result from the Israeli decision to allow Jews to settle in Hebron.

AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL REGRETS BEN-ELISAR STATEMENT

NC240827 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0740 GMT 24 Feb 80 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 24 February --Sa'd Murtada, first Egyptian ambassador to Israel, has emphasized that his primary duty in Israel will be to serve both the Palestine cause and Egypt in Israel.

In a statement published by AS-SIYASI today, Murtada expressed regret at the statement made by Israel's first ambassador to Egypt, Elyahu Ben-Elisar, that his appointment as ambassador to Egypt did not affect his belief in Israel's historic right to build new settlements in the West Bank.

ISRAELI AMBASSADOR ARRIVES IN EGYPT 24 FEB

NC241655 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1644 GMT 24 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 24 February--First Israeli Ambassador to Egypt Elyahu Ben-Elisar arrived in Cairo this afternoon. He was received at the airport by Hasan ad-Diwani, director of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, and the Israeli Embassy staff in Cairo.

The Israeli ambassador met at Ben Gurion Airport with Egyptian Ambassador in Tel Aviv Sa'd Murtada, who arrived at the airport while Ben-Elisar was preparing to leave for Cairo.

Before his departure Ben-Elisar made a statement in which he noted the importance of opening diplomatic relations between Egypt and Israel. He said that peace between Egypt and Israel is the first step toward a comprehensive peace.

AL-AHRAM REPORTS U.S. APPROVAL OF ARMS REQUESTS

NC242235 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT 24 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 24 February--In tomorrow's issue, AL-AHRAM reports that during the talks concluded today between Egyptian officials and U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense David McGiffert, Egypt's requests for arms for its army, navy and air force were approved. AL-AHRAM says that the talks also dealt with a complete program commensurate with the nature of events in the area and took into consideration the fact that the regional military balance must not be changed. AL-AHRAM has learned that any opposition that might arise to providing Egypt with sophisticated aircraft will not affect the proposed program.

AL-AHRAM publishes a statement by McGiffert who will leave Cairo for Washington tomorrow. He said that his mission achieved full success. He said that complete understanding was reached on all topics discussed. He pointed out that he came to Egypt to convey President Carter's decision to fulfill Egypt's military requests in light of the talks Vice President Husni Mubarak held in Washington and the proposed program to supply Egypt with sophisticated weapons.

AL-AKHBAR CRITICIZES TRIPOLI CHARTER STATES CONFERENCE

NC250810 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0638 GMT 25 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 February--AL-AKHBAR today describes the conference, which the heads of the so-called Tripoli charter states are seeking to convene, as an act of agentry in the service of the Soviet Union. It emphasizes that these states will approve an action which will support the Soviet strategy in the Gulf area and in the heart of the Arab homeland.

In its commentary today, AL-AKHBAR cites as evidence the very late telephone contacts which the heads of the Tripoli charter states--Hafiz al-Asad, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Chadli Benjedid--had on the same night that Saudi Crown Prince Fahd made a statement to the French paper LE FIGARO saying that the events in Afghanistan have exposed Soviet aims and that communism is infiltrating the area through the coercion, oppression and injustice which some regimes are practicing.

AL-AKHBAR points out that the leaders of the Tripoli charter stated had held a similar conference in Damascus and decided to support the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. It also points out that they are supporting the Soviet acts of exterminating the Muslim people of Afghanistan and that these leaders were partners to the crime which Al-Qadhdhafi planned against Tunisia.

The paper explains that these leaders are agents and puppets whom the Soviets move as they wish because these leaders are confident that their continued presence as heads of state depends on Soviet approval and guarantees for their imposed ppesence on their people.

AL-AHRAM NOTES 'RUMOR' ON USE OF ARAB FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN

LD211443 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 19 Feb 80 p 7 LD

[Editorial: "The Muslim Cubans"]

[Text] The report from Tokyo yesterday about rumors circulating in diplomatic quarters to the effect that the Soviet Government is currently seeking "to provide forces from the pro-Moscow Arab countries in order to replace, even if partially, its forces in Afghanistan" might not be true.

According to the rumors, these quarters said that the Soviet Union wants to replace its forces in Afghanistan with forces from South Yemen, Syria and the PLO so they will play the same role the Cuban forces are playing in Mozambique, Ethopia and Angola. These quarters went to the extent of labeling the Muslim Arab forces which the Soviet Union will employ as "Muslim Cubans."

As we said, these reports from Tokyo might not be true but the mere fact that they are being circulated means that the mentality that thought of the idea came to the conclusion that this is likely to happen. Rumors do not come from nothing but are preceded by conditions that contribute to generating them.

What is not a rumor but a fact is that Soviet aircraft recently transported South Yemeni forces from Aden airport to Afghanistan in order to fight on the side of Karmal's communist government against the rebels in Afghanistan.

If a Muslim Arab state stoops so low, as South Yemen has done, as to become a lackey of the Soviet Union and to take orders from it, it is not surprising that political quarters should think of the possibility of other countries doing the same and sending their forces to Afghanistan in order to fight the Muslims there.

Indeed it is not surprising that these quarters should use the term "Muslim Cubans" in their reference to these Arab countries (Yemen, Syria and the PLO) and regard their forces as mercenary forces fighting in order to serve the objectives of others rather than fighting for their own objectives and peoples.

It is regrettable and sad for the Arab nation that its condition has reached a state that has promoted certain quarters to regard the forces of some of the Arab countries as mercenary forces. But what can the world do as it sees these countries losing their will and becoming puppets manipulated by Moscow?

Afghanistan Situation Described

NC251030 Paris AFP in English 1000 GMT 25 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, Feb. 25 (AFP)--An Egyptian fighting along side Muslim insurgents in Afghanistan claimed the rebels were fighting Soviet tanks with their "bare hands" in a letter published today by the Cairo daily AL-AHRAM.

Mustafa Shalabi described the situation as "most serious", explaining the insurgents lacked food, medicine and proper arms. Quoting from the Koran, Mr. Shalabi appealed to Muslims to help the "mojahedin (Muslim guerrillas) in God's service". AL-AHRAM did not reveal the Egyptian volunteer's address but promised to pass it on to any "wealthy Arabs" wanting to support the Muslim fighters.

The letter did not explain how Mr. Shalabi came to join the insurgents or how many Egyptians were fighting in Afghanistan.

GHALI DELIVERS AS-SADAT'S MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT SENGHOR

NC222022 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1946 GMT 22 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Dakar, 22 February--Senegalese President Leopold Senghor has received a message from President Anwar as-Sadat. The message was delivered to the Senegalese president by Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, who is currently visiting Dakar.

In a statement to Senegalese television, Dr Ghali said that the message he handed to the Senegalese president last night dealt with the situation in the Middle East and Egypt's efforts to achieve a comprehensive and just peace and right of self-determination for the Palestinian people. He said that the Senegalese president expressed understanding of and appreciation for President as-Sadat's efforts and admiration for his far-sightedness and wisdom.

Dr Ghali added that he and President Senghor discussed current international problems, African problems and the need to work to consolidate African solidarity and spare the African continent the dangers of foreign intervention.

Concluding his statement, Dr Ghali praised the close cooperation between Egypt and Senegal. He said that the two countries are determined to develop mutual relations in all fields.

MILITARY DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR GHANA 24 FEB

NC241500 Cairo MENA in English 1427 GMT 24 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, Feb. 24 (MENA)--Major General Ahmad at-Tantawi, director of Commander and Staff Academy, left here Sunday for Accra at the head of a military delegation on a nine-day visit to Ghana. The delegation will visit the Ghanaian commanders and staff academy within the context of military cooperation between Egypt and friendly countries.

BRITISH CHIEF OF STAFF ARRIVES IN CAIRO

NC242258 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2140 GMT 24 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 24 February--Chief of Staff of the British Army Gen Edwin (Yarmal) arrived in Cairo tonight leading a military delegation on an official 4-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of Egyptian Chief of Staff Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi.

During the visit the British general will hold talks on boosting bilateral military cooperation. He was received at the airport by commander of the central military district, Maj Gen 'Atiyah Sulayman, senior officers of the armed forces and the British military attache in Cairo.

MODERATE PALESTINIANS TO PUBLISH NEWSPAPER IN CAIRO

NC240831 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0730 GMT 24 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 24 February--AS-SIYASI reports today that a large number of moderate Palestinians have decided to publish a weekly newspaper in Cairo to express their views. It adds that a considerable sum of money has been collected to finance this paper. Sa'id Kamal, former Fatah office director in Cairo, is expected to be the chief editor of the newspaper.

JAPANESE ENVOY CALLS ON VICE PREMIER RAMADAN

OW231319 Tokyo KYODO in English 1258 GMT 23 Feb 80 OW

[Text] Baghdad, Feb 23 KYODO--An Iraqi Government leader meeting Japanese special government envoy Sunao Sonoda Saturday said that his government would do its utmost to stabilize its crude oil supplies to Japan. The First Premier Taha Yasin Ramadan made the remark when Sonoda paid him a courtesy call at his office in the National Assembly building.

During the meeting, which lasted an hour and 40 minutes, Ramadan and Sonoda exchanged views on bilateral and international issues. Sonoda told the Iraqi vice premier that Japan would willingly cooperate with the Baghdad Government in uplifting the country's industrial technology level and sought stable oil supplies from Iraq to Japan. Ramadan, in return, said he agreed with Sonoda and promised further cooperation with Japan in ensuring stable oil supplies. But the Iraqi Government leader declined to give any specific figures about the volume of crude oil it would sell to Japan in the future.

The Iraqi Government sells its crude oil to Japan on a government-to-government basis instead of selling it through major oil companies. During the meeting, Ramadan appreciated Japan's diplomatic efforts in the Middle East.

Meets Trade Minister

JN231827 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1729 GMT 23 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 23 February--RCC member and Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali met this evening with former Japanese Foreign Minister Sonoda, personal envoy of Japanese Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira to President Saddam Husayn.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed trade and economic relations and ways to promote them within the framework of the economic and technical cooperation agreement concluded between the two countries. The two sides also discussed ways of activating the work of the joint Iraqi-Japanese committee as well as Japanese firms' participation in the next exhibitions of the Baghdad international fair.

The Iraqi minister stressed the importance of bringing Japanese technology to Iraq in light of its development needs, intensifying training programs and Japan's diversification of its imports of Iraqi commodities.

President Receives Message

JN232118 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1855 GMT 23 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 23 February--President Saddam Husayn has received a written message from Japanese Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira. The message deals with the exchange of viewpoints regarding the most important international issues and relations between the two friendly countries.

The message was conveyed to President Saddam Husayn by former Japanese Foreign Minister Sonoda, personal envoy of the Japanese prime minister, when the president received him here this evening.

The Japanese prime minister's personal envoy arrived here the day before yesterday on a visit of several days to Iraq.

Husayn Promises Crude Oil Supply

OW240807 Tokyo KYODO in English 0744 GMT 24 Feb 80 OW

[Text] Baghdad, Feb 24, KYODO--Iraq has promised to supply crude oil to Japan at an annual rate of 7 million tons even after the present government-level agreement runs out in August, Japanese officials said here Sunday. They said that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn gave the assurance when he received Japanese special envoy Sunao Sonoda Saturday night.

Iraq used to sell Japan 5 million tons of crude oil annually until 1978. The volume was increased by 40 percent to 7 million tons last July, when the then International Trade and Industry Minister Masumi Esaki visited Iraq. The new agreement is good for one year to the end of August this year.

At Saturday's meeting, Sonoda asked Iraq to continue to supply 7 million tons a year even after the expiry date. President Husayn assured the Japanese envoy that he would see the volume kept unchanged, officials accompanying Sonoda said.

On security in the Gulf states, Husayn and Sonoda agreed that any intervention in this region either by the Soviet Union or the United States was undesirable, the officials said. They said the president welcomed Sonoda's remark that Japan was ready to contribute to security in the Middle East through non-military assistance. On bilateral relations, the president emphasized the need of continued Japanese technology aid to Iraq, the officials said.

The two agreed that the scope of bilateral cooperation should be widened to cover not only oil deals and economic aid but cultural, social and other areas, they said. Sonoda invited Husayn to visit Japan. The president did not say when he would visit Japan, but expressed hope that Japanese Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira would visit Iraq, the officials said. Sonoda was scheduled to leave for Oman later Sunday to continue his tour.

Envoy Leaves

JN241701 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1640 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 24 February--Sunao Sonoda, former Japanese foreign minister and personal envoy of the Japanese prime minister to President Saddam Husayn, has concluded a 4-day visit to Iraq and left for Muscat.

During the visit, the Japanese envoy delivered a written message to President Saddam Husayn from Japanese Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira. The message dealt with bilateral relations and ways of promoting them. The envoy also met with a number of Iraqi ministers and officials for talks on bilateral relations.

The Japanese envoy is currently on an Arab tour for talks on ways of promoting Japanese-Arab relations.

BAGHDAD COMMENTARY: IRAN DISORDER RESULT OF KHOMEYNI POLICIES

JN231821 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Feb 80 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] A new wave of riots and disorder has erupted in a number of Iranian cities. This has resulted in scores of persons killed and hundreds injured. This is the result of another Khomeyni attempt to impose absolute control over the Iranian people and prevent the establishment of any political or religious currents which do not recognize Khomeyni's oneness and autocracy.

To achieve this, Khomeyni has given his criminal gangs, which he calls the Revolutionary Guards, a free hand to defile sanctities and shed the blood of the opposition, even of those people who are not in opposition, but at the same time do not totally support Khomeyni. If an observer tried to count the tragedies witnessed by Iran during the past year or so, he would come out with one condemning fact which proves that the Khomeyni guards began all [words indistinct] against political opposition like the people's mojahedin movement and against citizens who are not Persians, particularly, the Arabs and the Kurds, who have suffered a lot from the hostility of Khomeyni's guards.

Hundreds of injured people and scores of dead prove beyond doubt that there is not stability in Iran. This proves that the regime that alleges day and night that it represents Islam is divorced from Islam's spirit, because Islam is the religion of magnanimity, truth, dialog and kind words. It is not the religion of bloodshed and imposition of beliefs by the sword or the rifle. An authority incapable of establishing order despite more than a year in power is not worthy of respect in the field of international relations. The Iranian authority is unable to achieve a minimum of progress or to convince the people of the correctness of the regime's policy.

There are two possibilities for the continued, increased disorder. The first possibility is that the regime is planning the disorder to put an end to Khomeyni's political and religious enemies and social forces in the country. He who understands the hostile nature of the founders of the Iranian regime can easily accept this possibility. The second possibility is that the authority has failed to put an end to the riots and disorder because of the disunity of the government's various organs and because of the numerous centers of influence and power in the country.

Despite the fact that either possibility is valid, events prove that both factors have led to the continued disorder in Iran. This will lead to further aggravation of the situation. The deterioration in the situation has reached a stage where Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr has been unable to suppress his feelings. He has admitted that the Revolution Guards have failed in keeping order and security. He has also admitted that the guards have failed to silence the other parties. This is established fact.

OIL MINISTER RETURNS FROM OPEC MEETINGS IN LONDON

JN230847 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0752 GMT 23 Feb 80 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 23 February--Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, RCC member and oil minister, returned to Baghdad from London last night after heading the Iraqi delegation to the meetings of the Iraqi [as received] ministerial committee entrusted with drawing up an OPEC strategy.

In a statement following his arrival, Mr 'Abd al-Karim said that the ministerial committee endorsed the Iraqi proposal regarding the establishment of an international fund to aid developing countries and considered it a major topic to be raised by OPEC in any dialog with developing countries.

BA'TH PARTY, PFLP TALKS BEGIN IN BAGHDAD 22 FEB

JN221251 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1240 GMT 22 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 22 February--A round of talks began here today between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party under Na'im Haddad, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command member, and the PFLP under Abu 'Ali Mustafa, front assistant secretary general.

The two sides reviewed the developments in the Palestinian issue, the current Arab situation and imperialist-Zionist plots aimed at imposing capitulation on the Arab Palestinian people.

The two sides also discussed the relations of struggle linking the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the PFLP and ways of bolstering these relations in the service of the Palestinian issue and the Arab people's struggle.

Delegation Leaves

JN241709 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 24 February--The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] delegation led by the front's assistant secretary general, Abu 'Ali Mustafa, left Baghdad this afternoon at the end of a 3-day visit.

Abu 'Ali Mustafa said that during the visit, the delegation held talks with officials at the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command and exchanged views with them on current Arab issues and the imperialist and Zionist challenges to the Arab nation and its central issue, Palestine.

KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 25 FEB

JN251117 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 25 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 25 February--Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah arrived here at noon today with a message for President Saddam Husayn from Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah.

The Kuwaiti envoy said that the message deals with relations between the two fraternal countries. He added that he will hold talks with Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi on bilateral relations and on ways to develop them, as well as on the current Arab situation.

EIGHT EMBASSIES OPENED IN 'FRIENDLY, DEVELOPING' COUNTRIES

JN251130 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 25 February--The opening of eight Iraqi embassies in friendly and developing countries was announced here today. Official sources in the Iraqi Foreign Ministry said that these embassies will be opened in Madagascar, Mozambique, Guyana, Chad, Mali, Portugal, Zambia, and Jamaica, due to the Iraqi Government's desire to expand its relations with these states.

BANGLADESH VICE PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN IRAQ 24 FEB

JN240833 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 24 February--Bangladesh Vice President Mr Justice Abdus Sattar arrived here this morning, leading a delegation on a 4-day visit to Iraq. The Bangladesh vice president was received by RCC member and First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, the ministers, high-ranking officials and the Asian ambassadors in Baghdad.

In a statement upon arrival, Abdus Sattar said that the purpose of his visit is to develop and strengthen relations between Bangladesh and Iraq. He said that he will exchange views with Iraqi officials on issues that concern Iraq, Bangladesh and the nonalined movement.

He added that Iraq and Bangladesh enjoy identical views on most international issues and that they are endeavoring to cyrstaliz new views in this regard. He expressed the hope that his visit will deepen bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation in the various fields.

The delegation accompanying Abdus Sattar comprises (Fadl Rahman Khan), secretary general of the vice president's office; (Badul Qayoum), the foreign minister director general; (Haydarali), assistant under secretary of the ministry of finance for foreign financing sources; (Arfan Ali Khan), the vice president's aide de camp; and (Sayyed Badr Haq), who is in charge of relations in the vice president's office.

Talks Begin

JN241512 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1340 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 24 February--Official talks started here today between Iraq and Bangladesh. The Iraqi delegation is headed by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister. The Bangladesh delegation is headed by Vice President Justice Abdus Sattar. The talks aim at widening bilateral cooperation in the economic, scientific and cultural fields. Iraq's role in executing Bangladesh development projects will also be discussed.

At the beginning of the talks, the head of the Iraqi delegation gave a speech in which he stressed Iraq's interest in developing its relations with Bangladesh and the importance of unifying the stands of developing countries to face foreign intervention in their internal affairs.

Taha Yasin Ramadan expressed the hope that the next summit conference of nonalined nations, which will be held here, will lay the foundation and correct framework for cooperation between these nations, thus strengthening their independence and the ability of the nonalined movement to fight the domination and exploitation of the big powers.

In a similar speech, the head of the Bangladesh delegation affirmed the deep historic and cultural ties between the two friendly countries and expressed his country's wish to develop these relations for the benefit of both countries. The Bangladesh vice president reiterated his country's support for the Palestinian people in their struggle for their legitimate rights. A joint technical committee was formed to discuss and prepare a bilateral cooperation statement in all fields.

KING HUSAYN RETURNS FROM ROMANIA 23 FEB

JN231634 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Feb 80 JN

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn and the delegation accompanying him returned home this afternoon at the conclusion of a 3-day visit to the Socialist Republic of Romania.

Following his departure from Romania, His Majesty King Husayn sent a cable to President Ceausescu in which he expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Romanian Government and people for the welcome and hospitality accorded him and his delegation. He wished continued happiness to President Ceausescu and further progress and prosperity for the friendly Romanian people.

IRAQI RCC VICE CHAIRMAN IBRAHIM PAYS VISIT

JN241242 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Excerpts] Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim arrived in Amman today on a short visit to Jordan, during which he will meet with His Majesty King Husayn and hold talks with Jordanian officials on the current Arab situation and on relations between the two fraternal countries.

In a statement to newsmen, Ibrahim said that his visit to Jordan is part of an official mission dealing with the Arab nation's future, safety and contemporary history, particularly as this nation is passing through a very critical stage.

He added that he is carrying the greetings of President Saddam Husayn to his brother His Majesty King Husayn and to the Jordanian Government and people.

Ibrahim said that the main topics to be dealt with during the visit are Arab solidarity and cohesion in regard to the abnormal situation prevailing in the Arab nation, which is confronting serious challenges against its sovereignty, dignity and basic interest.

Ibrahim asserted that the visit comes within the context of the firm policy followed by Iraq, which is constantly contacting the Arab brothers in order to mobilize and pool all Arab potential for the Arab struggle and in confronting the challenges.

He added that he will hold talks with Jordanian officials on the national charter recently declared by President Husayn. This charter represents an axis for the Arab nation's move, he concluded.

Talks With King

JN241142 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Amman, 24 February--King Husayn of Jordan and RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim held a 90-minute closed meeting today. This was followed by an expanded meeting between the Iraqi and Jordanian sides.

Report on Talks, Departure

JN241929 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn and Iraqi RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim met at An-Nadwah Palace at noon today. The talks dealt with the various aspects of the Arab stand as well as the current international situation and the close fraternal relations and constructive cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

'Izzat Ibrahim explained the dimensions of the pan-Arab charter proposed by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and its objectives for the Arab nation's solidarity and consolidation of relations.

His Majesty King Husayn reaffirmed Jordan's support for the principles cited in the proposed charter and for all efforts aimed at consolidating Arab solidarity.

The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the minister of court, the commander in chief of the armed forces, the minister of state for foreign affairs and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad. On the Iraqi side, it was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Na'im Haddad, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hamid 'Alwan, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Husayn al-Jamali and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

Prime Minister ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf told the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY that the talks dealt with the principles of the pan-Arab charter proposed by Iraq and supported by Jordan. He added: His Majesty King Husayn stressed Jordan's eagerness to support any Arab effort aimed at rallying the Arab nation around a program of cooperation and organization of efforts and potentials and of development of capabilities. The prime minister added that Jordan considers it a suitable time to propose constructive ideas to the Arab nation so as to pave the way for joint action in the various fields of cooperation and coordination and to mobilize the potentials to face the challenges of the age and the dangers of the forces hostile to the Arabs and their future.

'Izzat Ibrahim left Amman this evening and was seen off by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the prime minister, the minister of court, civil and military officials and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

UN DELEGATE CALLS FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL

JN230639 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 23 Feb 80 JN

[Text] The UN Security Council convened late last night at Jordan's request and discussed the Israeli settlement policy in the Arab territories, particularly in occupied Arab Hebron.

Dr Hazim Nusaybah, Jordan's permanent representative to the United Nations, delivered a speech in which he said Israel continues its settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories, violating all international laws and norms. Dr Nusaybah called for the imposition of deterrent sanctions against Israel in accordance with the UN Charter.

The Moroccan representative also spoke on behalf of the Islamic countries in the United Nations. He strongly condemned Israel's measures of establishing Jewish settlements on occupied Arab land.

Further Report

JN231801 Amman JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 23 Feb 80 JN

[Excerpts] New York, 23 February--The UN Security Council held a special session last night at the request of the Jordanian Government and the Islamic Conference Organization to discuss the report of the UN factfinding committee on Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories and the recent events in Hebron resulting from Israel's decision to settle immigrants in the heart of the city.

In his speech to the Security Council Dr Hazim Nusaybah said that Israel is proceeding to build settlements on lands it has seized from Arab citizens in the West Bank and Jerusalem, where 87 settlements occupied by 91,000 people have been built so far.

He said Israel has completed its settlement plans around the Arab city of Jerusalem to seclude it from the rest of the West Bank and from the Arab and Muslim worlds, especially with the building of (Ma'alit Adomin) settlement in Al-'Ayzariyah area.

The Jordanian permanent delegate referred to Israel's exploitation of water and natural resources in the West Bank to deprive the Palestinian Arabs of their means of existence and to force them to emigrate and leave their lands and possessions. So far, Israel has taken over 5/6 of the water resources. He also said that during the last 6 months Israel has confiscated 230,000 dunums of Arab lands, an increase of 15 percent over what it had confiscated at the time the Security Council committee was formed. The total area of land confiscated will thus be 1,730,000 dunums, which is more than 31.5 percent of the total area of the West Bank and Jerusalem.

The Jordanian representative explained to the Security Council the plan of the Israeli Government in cooperation with the settlements department of the World Zionist Organization and the world Jewish agency to build 460 new settlements which will house 27,000 immigrant families. The project, which was started in 1979, will cost $14 billion.

Dr Nusaybah also talked about other schemes that have been put into effect since 1975 to build settlements in the Jordan Valley and to cordon off the city of Jericho and neighboring areas with settlements.

The Jordanian delegate denounced the Israeli decision which permits Jews to settle in Hebron and the brutal measures taken by the Israeli occupation authorities against Hebron residents during the 11-day curfew.

He said: Not since the Middle Ages has a place of worship for one religion been changed into a place of worship for another religion as the Israeli authorities have done in permitting Jewish settlers to desecrate the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron.

Dr Nusaybah added: If Jews have property in Hebron, Palestinian Arabs also have properties in Yafo, Haifa, Tiberias, Ashqelon and other cities. Israel must return them to their owners.

Nusaybah also denounced the Israeli Government's decision last September permitting Israelis to buy land in the West Bank and Jerusalem, saying no one would agree to sell one foot of land for all the gold in the world. He added that the problem in the occupied territories is not that an occupation has lasted 13 years; rather, it is a problem of Israeli settlements and colonization aimed at changing the geographic, demographic and historic characteristics of a whole nation. Nusaybah said the Palestinian people will continue their struggle to regain their rights with the help of Arab, Muslim and nonalined nations and all the nations that believe in human justice.

The Jordanian permanent representative called on the Security Council to impose sanctions on Israel under the UN Charter and to put an end to Israel's arrogance and aggression, both of which constitute the biggest threat not only to the Palestinian people at home and abroad but also to peace and security in the area and world peace.

MINISTER OF STATE DEPARTS FOR TUNIS, MAKES STATEMENT

JN251413 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Marwan al-Qasim, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Amman for Tunis today to attend the Arab foreign ministers emergency meeting which will begin tomorrow, Tuesday, to discuss the complaints exchanged between Tunisia and the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

Answering a question by the JNA correspondent on Jordan's stand at this meeting, Al-Qasim said: As we go to the Tunis meeting, our main references are the 9th and 10th summit resolutions of Baghdad and Tunis, respectively, resolutions which laid down the foundations of Arab solidarity and strengthened Arab intrinsic power in order to confront all challenges faced by the Arab nation, be these a result of the Camp David accords and what followed these accords or recent contradictions in the international arena, which are a result of the superpowers' new conflicts in the various regions, including our region. Indeed, such conflicts carry new threats, which behoove us to achieve more integration, awareness, sincerity and serious action in order to forstall all opportunities to deal blows to Arab solidarity through fabricating problems within the Arab ranks so as to peddle the suspect schemes directly threatening the Arab fate.

Al-Qasim added that the Jordanian stand will be adopted through proceeding from this perspective, since this stand has always and still considers Arab solidarity and building intrinsic power as the two main foundations for the protective shield against all moves directed against the Arab existence and fate.

Al-Qasim said he hoped that we and our brothers will be able to contain this problem in such a way that all of us will continue our pan-Arab march and forstall all opportunities for all the Arab nation's enemies.

Al-Qasim added that during his visit to Tunisia, he will meet with the Arab League secretary general to discuss issues pertaining to the visit of the delegation headed by Jordan to several African states.

PREMIER DISCUSSES MIDEAST ISSUES AT CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL SESSION

JN251248 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Feb 80 JN

[Text] The National Consultative Council [NCC] held a meeting today under speaker Ahmad at-Tarawinah during which the speaker referred several draft resolutions to the council. Commenting on a question by an NCC member on the Jordanian stand, Prime Minister His Excellency ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf said that he had met with the NCC Foreign Affairs Committee and briefed it on Jordan's foreign policy and moves on the international level.

The prime minister added: We in Jordan have been holding high-level and intensive activity from the very beginning. This activity became particularly prominent at the Baghdad summit. We took the initiative to prevent the collapse and dismemberment of the Arab front.

The prime minister said: Jordan believes in its principles which spring from its pan-Arab conviction regarding the importance of Arab solidarity and cohesion against the enemy's machinations, including the disfiguration [tashwih] of the land, the self-rule game and the liquidation of the holy cause.

His excellency the prime minister added: From the outset, Jordan has performed its role on the Arab and international levels. It has basic convictions which stem from the conscience of the homeland.

NCC member 'Abdallah ar-Rimawi had proposed the issuance of a statement on Camp David. However, the Foreign Affairs Committee thought that the time was not suitable for the issuance of such a statement.

AD-DUSTUR URGES ARAB NATION TO AID SYRIA AGAINST ISRAEL

JN231042 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 23 Feb 80 pp 1, 19 JN

[Editorial: "Syria Should Not Be Alone]

[Text] Following the implicit threats made by Menahem Begin, his deputy Yadin, war Minister Weizman and the chief of the Zionist military intelligence, it is now the turn of the Israeli opposition. Yesterday, the Israeli opposition leader announced over the Israeli Army radio that Syria can cause widespread turbulence all along Israel's northern border and that as long as there are Syrian forces in Lebanon, there is always the danger of a direct confrontation with Israel.

In the United States, the psychological war against the Arabs has begun to pave the way for covering up for the expected Zionist aggression. The CBS Television Network has cited sources as saying that Israel has 24 nuclear bombs and that it carried out a nuclear test in the South Atlantic Ocean in September.

It is clear that the failure of the self-rule issue will prompt Israel to take the armed option to crush the states which are refusing to bow down to fait accompli solutions. Military strategists have been searching for a means to breach the Arab front opposed to the Camp David accords with the minimum military and political losses.

The three Arab countries which are concerned in the Israeli military operations are Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. The Syrian decision to redeploy its forces in Lebanon has embarrassed the Zionist schemes, which aimed at dealing a blow to Syria and surrounding the capital of the Omayyads [Damascus] from the rear by using Lebanese territory, since the Lebanese Army no longer constitutes an obstacle to the advance of the Zionist invasion forces.

In Israel's view, Jordan continues to constitute an ideal target for crushing Arab opposition to fait accompli solutions. However, an aggression on Jordan entails political perils. Furthermore, such an aggression does not realize the aspired goal; namely, crushing the Arab nation's will to power through Syria.

We believe in the gravity of the Israeli threats and preparations against Syria at the current stage in view of many considerations, the most important of which are the state of laxity prevailing in the Arab world and the inability of the Arabs to build an intrinsic power capable of dealing with the options imposed by Israel and emerging from the dilemma brought about by the self-rule negotiations.

The anticipated Israeli aggression against Syria is an unprecedented temptation. Israel can concentrate its forces in one area and carry out its operations in a relatively narrow range that facilitates its movement and advance in depth.

Syria knows that it will not be alone in the battle against Israel. We believe that Syria's battle is the Arab nation's battle and its steadfastness is the Arab nation's steadfastness. From the ocean to the Gulf, this nation should stand alongside Arab Syria and should provide it with backing and support to wage the battle imposed upon it by its national destiny and pan-Arab affiliation against the Zionist aggression.

Syria's pride might prevent it from asking for anything from the Arab world. However, this does not mean that the Arab nation should stand as an idle spectator while Israel singles out fraternal Syria or Jordan or Lebanon because the destiny of the entire Arab nation is organically linked with the destiny of these three states, which are the last line of defense of Arab existence.

BASHIR AL-JUMAYYIL'S DAUGHTER, 3 OTHERS KILLED IN BEIRUT

NC231205 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Feb 80 NC

[Excerpt] Security was disturbed in Beirut this morning by a regrettable incident in which four people were killed: Maya, daughter of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil; his driver Ilyas Lahhud; Ni'mah Ghanim; and Toni Wakim. The incident occurred at 1100 today when, as Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil's car was passing the Foreign Ministry in Al-Ashrafiyah, a bomb that had been placed in a private car parked near the ministry went off; it has been proven that the bomb was detonated by remote control.

The explosion killed Maya, the driver and two others. Reports say 15 others were injured, some seriously, that some cars parked near the scene were destroyed and that buildings nearby were damaged. The security forces cordoned off the area and interrogations began to unravel the ramifications of the incident.

Al-Huss Statement

NC231223 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1158 GMT 23 Feb 80 NC

[Text] We have received a report saying that Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has commented on this regrettable incident, stating: This is a heinous crime. It creates the deepest sorrow in all of our hearts and arouses the strongest denunciation. No conscientious person can approve of such actions. May God spare Lebanon the evil of this blind violence.

Al-Jumayyil Comment

NC231318 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 23 Feb 80 NC

[Excerpts] The presidential palace has been informed about today's abominable incident in Beirut. As a result, the discussions between President Sarkis, Prime Minister al-Huss and Minister Butrus were immediately suspended. The president swiftly contacted Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil and the security commanders. Prime Minister al-Huss and Minister Butrus also had expeditious contacts on the same subject. Maronite Patriarch Antonios Butrus Khuraysh contacted Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil and expressed his denunciation of the abominable crime.

Former President Camille Sham'un, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, Lebanese security commanders, deputies, political personalities and several popular delegations hurried to Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil's house to express their denunciation of the cowardly crime. After he was informed of the incident, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil told journalists: in addition to the vileness, cowardice and evilness of the crime, it creates an ugly situation. The time has come for Lebanon and the Lebanese to unite in fighting this situation not only by ridding the country of evil persons but by cleansing all people and ending rancor, hatred and malice.

AL-HAWADITH PUBLISHER KIDNAPED EN ROUTE TO AIRPORT

NC241520 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Feb 80 NC

[Text] Contacts are still underway to determine the whereabouts of journalist Salim al-Lawzi, publisher of AL-HAWADITH magazine, who was kidnaped this morning on the way to Beirut International Airport. The latest information notes that the kidnapers, who had taken the AL-HAWADITH publisher to the south, have turned east toward (Al-Mishrif) in the Ash-Shuf district, after having passed through Ad-Damur.

PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE CALLS FOR STEADFASTNESS FRONT SUMMIT

JN241907 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Excerpts] President Hafiz al-Asad has received a cable of greetings and solidarity from the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference following the conclusion of its second session which was held in Damascus from 22 to 25 February 1980.

The Permanent Secretariat also addressed a message to the leaders of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation. The message says: The Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference met during the very complex circumstances currently experienced by our Arab nation.

It sensed the real mounting dangers threatening our Arab people, their liberation movement and their central issue, the Palestine question--dangers which stem from the mounting U.S. imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat onslaught, which has reached a very serious phase marked by the normalization of relations between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist emeny, the hoisting of the Israeli flag in Cairo and the exchange of full recognition and diplomatic representation between them as a first step toward establishing the bases for a political and military alliance with the United States and increasing their pressure and aggressive conspiracies against the strongholds of Arab steadfastness represented by the member states of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, the PLO and the Lebanese National Progressive Front.

It calls upon you in the name of the Arab masses to make your firm reply to the normalization of relations and the conspiracy by holding a fourth summit of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation.

26 Feb Day of Mourning

JN241909 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Excerpts] The Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference held its final meeting today during which it discussed and approved the political statement prepared by the drafting committee. It also approved several political and organizational resolutions and a program of the activities to be carried out by the Permanent Secretariat in 1980.

At the end of the meeting, the Permanent Secretariat, represented by the head of the delegations, held a press conference in which the political statement and the political and organizational resolutions were read out.

'Umar al-Hamidi, the secretary general of the Arab People's Conference, and the heads of the various delegations answered questions put by the journalists.

The Permanent Secretariat addressed an appeal to the masses of our Arab nation to consider Tuesday, 26 February a day of mourning as an expression of the pan-Arab stand against the normalization of relations between As-Sadat and Zionism and of Arab determination to foil the conspiracy being carried out by the Camp David partners.

Issues Statement

JN250703 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Excerpts] The Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference issued a political statement at the end of its meetings in Damascus last night.

The statement reiterates that the crux of the Arab struggle is to foil the Camp David accords, to consolidate the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, to convert it into a strategic, political, economic and military front and to enable it to impose political, economic and oil sanctions upon the United States.

The statement calls for widening Arab solidarity on a solid basis that will confront the Camp David and U.S. imperialist plots. The statement denounces the suspicious campaigns to divert attention from the United States--the principal enemy of the Arab liberation front--to equate this principal enemy with the strategic ally, to talk about the superpowers' conflict and to fabricate battles with the Soviet Union, the chief supporter of our nation's struggle.

The Arab People's Conference political statement stresses the need to increase cohesion with and rally around Syria, the basic stronghold in facing the Zionist enemy. The statement condemns the criminal acts being carried out by the Muslim Brotherhood and all attempts to damage Syria and its domestic front, because they are an integral part of the Camp David designs. The statement calls for support of Syria, to enable it to confront the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary pressure and threats.

Touching on the Palestinian resistance, the Permanent Secretariat calls for support of the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and for an increase in cohesion with it, in order to wreck the self-rule plot, defeat the occupation, bring about Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and regain the national and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to determine their future, to return and to establish their independent state in their land.

The political statement stresses the importance of supporting the Lebanese people's struggle politically, materially and militarily; of entrenching the base of struggle of the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese nationalist forces; of achieving national reconciliation; and of foiling the sectarian and partition scheme.

The statement also calls for consolidation of Syria's role, which supports Lebanon's unity, Arabism, security and stability.

The political statement hails the Egyptian people's struggle to overthrow As-Sadat's regime and the capitulatory Camp David accords. The statement stresses the need to support these people and their patriotic movement, to bring Egypt back to the liberation trench as a stronghold for the pan-Arab struggle.

The political statement praises and expresses appreciation of the Iranian Revolution and its leader, Khomeyni. It calls for support of Afghanistan in its efforts to face the imperialist plots. The statement urges support for the tenacious strategic alliance between the Arab national liberation movement and the socialist bloc countries, headed by the USSR, as a basic need in our fateful struggle against the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary alliance, and for support of our pan-Arab steadfastness and our just cause.

The statement calls for boosting cohesion with the liberation movements in Africa, Asia and Latin America against the common enemy, world imperialism, led by the United States and Zionism.

FOREIGN MINISTRY BRIEFS DIPLOMATS ON LETTER TO WALDHEIM

JN231145 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 23 Feb 80 JN

[Text] An official Foreign Ministry source stated today that the Syrian Foreign Ministry summoned today the heads of the diplomatic missions accredited in Damascus from countries which are members of the UN Security Council. They were received by the directors of the competent departments. They were each given a copy of the letter which 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, sent to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and the president of the UN Security Council on the seriousness of the Israeli statements, threats and military moves in the Golan preparatory to a military aggression against Syria.

The source added: This letter denies Israeli allegations regarding Syrian troop concentrations. It also enables the UN observers in the Golan to decide on the truth regarding the presence of such concentrations, if requested.

AL-ASAD CONTACTS LIBYAN, ALGERIAN LEADERS VIA TELEPHONE

JN240603 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Yesterday evening telephone contacts took place between President Hafiz al-Asad and Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid respectively. During these telephone contacts, consultations were held on convening a summit conference of the pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, in order to increase the front's steadfastness. Contacts will also be held with the PDRY and the PLO on the subject.

KHADDAM RECEIVES ARAB SOCIALIST UNION DELEGATION

JN250708 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Damascus--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received an Arab Socialist Union [ASU] delegation today. The delegation comprises 'Abd ar-Rahim Murad, ASU secretary general, Kamal Yunis, Hasan Sabra and Sa'id Ayyub. Discussion during the meeting centered on developments in the Lebanese situation. The ASU secretary general made a statement to a SANA correspondent, praising Syria's pan-Arab and honorable role in Lebanon. He added that Syria has been and will continue to be the frontline in defense of Arabism and its cause against the plot and intrigues perpetrated by the Zionist enemy and his agents. Murad hailed Syria's steadfastness and its pan-Arab role in supporting all the Arab revolutionary forces, in order to foil the Camp David schemes and the imperialist-Zionist plots that are being hatched against the Arab nation.

ALGERIA

CUBA'S FARAH ARRIVES FOR CONSTRUCTION COOPERATION TALKS

FL202309 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 20 Feb 80 FL

[Text] Algiers--The Cuban minister in charge of construction overseas, Levi Farah, today arrived on a working visit aimed at expanding bilateral cooperation in the construction field. Farah and his delegation were received at Houari Boumediene Airport by Algerian Housing Minister Abdelmadjid Aouchiche, Cuban Ambassador Raul Barzaga and Juan J. Lopez Garcia, representative of the Cuban State Committee for [Economic] Cooperation.

The visit is in response to the desire of the two countries to expand bilateral relations, Farah told the press after recalling that about 100 Algerians are studying in construction institutes in Cuba. Shortly after his arrival, the Cuban minister opened the first round of talks with his Algerian counterpart. Tomorrow, Farah and Aouchiche will make a working tour of the interior of the country.

DEPARTURE OF BULGARIAN DEFENSE MINISTER REPORTED

LD221430 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 22 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Gen Dobri Dzhurov, member of the Politburo of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and defense minister, this morning left Algiers following an official visit at the invitation of the Defense Ministry. During his visit he was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and general secretary of the party, and also visited the Cherchel military academy. He was seen off at the airport by Col (Qasim Riba'), member of the Political Bureau and general secretary of the Defense Ministry; Col (Ali Buhajjah), member of the Central Committee and commander of the 7th military region; senior cadres of the Defense Ministry; and the ambassadors of both countries.

LIBYA

MEETINGS BETWEEN U.S., TUNISIAN OFFICIALS REPORTED

LD222208 Tripoli JANA in English 1843 GMT 22 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Tunis, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The puppet regime in the protectorate of Tunisia continues its consultations with officials of the Carter administration to get more support in confronting the popular uprising throughout the country.

The Tunisian Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri met with the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations who arrived in Tunis yesterday coming from occupied Palestine, said Radio Tunis. The radio did not disclose issues discussed, but observers say the meeting was centered around the U.S. support to its puppet and his junta.

This is confirmed by a report submitted by the Tunisian ambassador to Washington to Habib Bourguiba in which he expressed his satisfaction toward the U.S. stand. Other reports said that Hedi Nouira also met with the American official and discussed with him the deteriorating situation in Tunisia as a result of the popular uprising.

POSTPONEMENT OF ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL MEETING REQUESTED

LD232318 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 23 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Feb, JANA--JANA has learned that the Foreign Secretariat of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has requested the postponement of the Arab League Council meeting scheduled for 26 February. The Jamahiriyah had asked for the meeting to discuss the dangers of the French invasion of Tunisia.

BULGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S LETTER TO AT-TURAYKI CITED

LD241058 Tripoli JANA in English 0821 GMT 24 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Feb 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The foreign minister of Bulgaria said in the letter sent to Foreign Secretary Dr. 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki that the French invasion of Tunisia is aimed at world revolutionary and progressive forces, especially the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

He said Bulgaria is closely following the aggressive activities of the United States and its allies in NATO which are aimed at realising U.S. political and military hegemony and the quelling of popular revolutions especially in Iran and the Arab region. He said attempts at using internal events which have recently taken place in Tunisia is a clear example of Bulgaria's fears. He added that the invasion is part of an international colonialist conspiracy which includes the Arab world, the Mediterranean and Africa.

He said colonialist anti-revolutionary forces which support capitulationist policies, are trying to create a premeditated atmosphere of tension regarding the Jamahiriyah. This action, he added carries great dangers regarding the Arab region's security and peace, because Libya's struggle against the capitulationist policy and the U.S. and its allies attacks is plain for all to see.

The Bulgarian foreign minister affirmed his country's support for the policies of the grand Al-Fatah revolution against Zionist and colonialist schemes.

LIBYA, BULGARIA SIGN TRADE AGREEMENT 23 FEB

LD242336 Tripoli JANA in English 1419 GMT 24 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, Feb 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The general people's secretary of land reclamation and agrarian reform signed an agreement yesterday evening with the Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Trade Mr. Khristo Khristov establishing a joint Libyan-Bulgarian transport company.

Mr. Khristov also handed over a letter from the Bulgarian foreign minister to the Foreign Secretary Dr. 'Ali at-Turayki and conferred with the secretaries of petroleum, the economy and agriculture in an effort to bolster joint cooperation between the Libyan Arab and Bulgarian peoples.

PDRY'S FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI

LD242306 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpt] Tripoli--PDRY Politburo member and Foreign Minister Salim Salih Muhammad arrived in Tripoli this afternoon on a visit to the Jamahiriyah. He was welcomed at the airport by Foreign Secretary at-Turayki, the PDRY ambassador and the director of the Arab department at the Foreign Secretariat.

MAURITANIA

FOREIGN MINISTER ENDS VISIT TO MOROCCO

LD242300 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpt] Mauritanian Foreign Minister Mohamed el Moktar left Morocco this morning at the end of his visit to Morocco. During the visit he was received by King Hassan II in Marrakech. He also had talks with Minister of State in Charge of Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta.

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA INTERVIEWED ON MOROCCAN-ALGERIAN RELATIONS

LD231450 Rabat MAP in English 1251 GMT 23 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Paris, Feb 23 (MAP)--Mr. M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan foreign affairs and cooperation minister, granted an interview to the TOP AFRICA magazine devoted to the prevailing tension in north west Africa, and the Moroccan stand toward the Middle East crisis.

Asked about the Algerian and the POLISARIO stand concerning the development of the Sahara question, Mr. Boucetta stated that "the tension was generated by Algeria, which seeks in the name of the self-determination principle, to extend its hegemonism policy to a Moroccan territory. The so-called liberation movement is just a means to achieve this policy."

The minister went on saying that "to reduce the tension prevailing in the region and to seek any formula for local cooperation, Morocco never refused dialogue or negotiation and the attempted mediations."

Dealing with the Moroccan stand on the same issue, Mr. Boucetta asserted that "concerning the defense of the Moroccan territorial integrity, the Moroccan people are unanimous under the command of King Hassan II, and are ready to consent to the necessary sacrifice. I can assure you that the Moroccan people are ready to face any aggression as they defend a just cause."

Answering a question whether the Moroccan-Algerian relations were condemned, the Moroccan minister stated that "Morocco is doomed to co-exist with Algeria and we can never change geography. We are one people and we complement each other in a perfect way. This why our constant objective was to set up a regional body, the great Maghreb."

Asked to draw conclusions about the Istiqlal Party's participation in the Moroccan Government, Mr. Boucetta, as one of its leaders said that he does not "claim that all the problems have been solved, anyhow the guidelines are drawn."

Shifting to the Middle East crisis, Mr Boucetta asserted that "Morocco's stand vis-a-vis the issue is clear and was reaffirmed by King Hassan II on several occasions. Morocco is attached to the 1974 Rabat Arab summit resolutions stating that no just and lasting peace nor a definitive settlement of the Palestinian question can be achieved if we do not recognize the Palestinian right to self-determination and the setting up of an independent state under the leadership of their sole representative the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). On the other hand, the Rabat summit required the Israeli withdrawal from Arab occupied land".

BELGIAN MINISTERIAL TEAM'S TALKS IN RABAT REPORTED

LD220947 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 16 Feb 80 p 1 LD

[MAP report: "Mr Maati Bouabid Receives a Belgian Ministerial Delegation"]

[Text] Rabat, 16 February--Late Friday morning at his departmental headquarters, Prime Minister and Justice Minister Maati Bouabid received the Belgian ministerial delegation which is on an official visit to Morocco.

Also present at this interview were Mr Mahjoubi Aherdan, minister for posts and telecommunications, and Azeddine Guessous, minister for commerce, industry, merchant navy and fisheries.

In the morning the Belgian delegation, consisting of Foreign Trade Minister Urbain, Minister for Posts, Telephones and Telegraph Baudson and Plenipotentiary Minister Leermakers and their assistants, had a working meeting with M'hamed Douiri, minister of equipment and national development and Mr Abdelhaq Tazi, secretary of state for cooperation attached to the minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation.

At the end of this interview Mr Urbain, the Belgian foreign trade minister, stated that the terms of the talks with Mr Maati Bouabid had been "to summarize the ministerial delegation's contacts with government members with the aim of strengthening economic and commercial exchanges."

The Belgian foreign trade minister insisted on Belgium's desire for more advanced cooperation with Morocco, especially by the resumption of an intergovernmental loan.

For his part, Mr Baudson, the Belgian minister for posts, telephones and telegraph, indicated that a Belgian technical commission is going to examine some work programs immediately with a view to technical cooperation relating among other things to the organization of staff training.

In addition to close ministerial assistants, Mr Luc Putnam, Belgian ambassador to Rabat, was present at this meeting.

SUDAN

KHARTOUM DEMONSTRATION AGAINST AS-SADAT REPORTED

JN242018 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 24 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 24 February--The Sudanese capital recently witnessed a huge demonstration protesting traitor As-Sadat's recent criminal step of exchanging diplomatic representation with the Zionist enemy.

The demonstration, which was called for by the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Khartoum University branch of the Palestinian Students General Union, roamed the Sudanese capital streets calling on Numayri's regime to take a clear and decisive stand against As-Sadat's betrayal of the Arab nation.

News reports say that the Numayri regime's oppressive organs obstructed the demonstration and blocked the streets leading to the markets and commercial sectors. However, the demonstrators managed to reach the As-Sadat regime's embassy and submitted a protest memo condemning As-Sadat's treasonous policy and trends.

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM NIGERIAN COUNTERPART

JN231731 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 23 Feb 80 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 23 February--President Numayri received a written message from Nigerian President Alhaji Shehu Shagari this morning. The message was conveyed to the president by (Alhaji Ali Baba), the Nigerian president's special envoy, who arrived in Sudan last Tuesday.

A responsible source at the president's office said that the message asks for Sudan's political support for Nigeria's efforts to get a permanent seat on the World Bank's board of directors. President Numayri promised to support this request.

President Numayri reviewed with the Nigerian envoy the problems facing the African Continent, particularly the issue of refugees on the continent.

TUNISIA

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIONS OF QAFSAH AFFAIR COMPLETED

LD221807 Tunis TAP in English 1408 GMT 22 Feb 80 LD

["Pool" item]

[Text] Tunis, Feb 22 (TAP)--An informed judicial source reported Thursday that preliminary investigations in the affair of the aggression perpetrated last January 27 against Qafsah, have been carried out.

One hundred persons, among whom 50 were members of the commando and who seem to be involved in the affair, which will be judged by the state security court. [sentence as received]

Under the decree published by the Tunisian republic official gazette, Mr (Bechir Kedous), general barrister at the supreme court of appeal and (Mohamda Ben Kheder), first examining magistrate are charged to investigate into the affairs which fall within the competence of the state security court.

U.S. AMBASSADOR MCHENRY CITED ON TALKS IN TUNIS

LD221958 Tunis TAP in English 1350 GMT 22 Feb 80 LD

["Pool" item]

[Text] Tunis, Feb 22 (TAP)--"We wish to strongly reaffirm our deep interest in Tunisia's independence and integrity. Any foreign interference in Tunisia's affairs will be a preoccupying issue for us," asserted Mr Donald P. McHenry, U.S. ambassador at the United Nations, following the talks he held Thursday with the prime minister, Mr Hedi Nouira.

This meeting, Mr McHenry added, dealt with the situation created by the recent attack against Qafsah and by the threats which have been launched since that time against Tunisia by the Libyan Government.

"We have been sharing friendly and tight relations with Tunisia," he went on, "since the first day of its independence in 1956. During the years which followed, Tunisia kept on trying to reach its democratic ideals and social and economic progress, in spite of its limited natural resources."

The U.S. ambassador to United Nations, who arrived Wednesday evening in Tunis, was also received Thursday by the Tunisian Foreign Minister Mr Mohamed Fitouri.

He left Tunis this morning.

BOURGUIBA COMMENTS ON QAFSAH INCIDENT, AL-QADHDHAFI

LD231446 Tunis TAP in English 1345 GMT 23 Feb 80 LD

["Pool" item]

[Text] Tunis, Feb 23 (TAP)--The Arabic-language daily ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT coming out in London published Friday an interview in which President Habib Bourguiba evokes the situation now prevailing in the world and the consequences of the aggression perpetrated against the city of Qafsah.

In the beginning of the interview, the correspondent of the newspaper writes notably: "President Bourguiba continues to be in full possession of an excellent memory which does not miss out any detail, searching as it may be, of the 50-year struggle he undertook against the French occupier first, and against underdevelopment then.

Tunisian president states also in this interview that preliminary investigation showed that the gang who attacked the city of Qafsah had come from Libya.

He recalled that Al-Qadhdhafi said he will not give up his aggressions against Tunisia and will continue (?this) venture until "our regime or his disappears."

"If Al-Qadhdhafi resorts to war," says Bourguiba, "we are ready to report. If he happens to renew his aggression, we will face him. We now have enough weapons to hit twice as hard as Libya."

Besides, President Bourguiba denies that French forces [were] stationed in Tunisia after the events of Qafsah saying: "Not a French soldier set foot in Tunisia...."

Answering a question on the Arab countries' stand with respect to the aggression against Qafsah, the head of state says: "Arab states will meet in the course of the current month to examine the issue; and we expect our Arab brothers to be on the side of justice, to support law and to denounce lies.

On the other hand, President Bourguiba points out that Tunisia's relations with Morocco and Algeria are excellent. "The aggressors crossed into Tunisia from the Algerian border and when Algerian authorities came to know the news, they strengthened control on their borders and informed us of that," said the head of state.

WESTERN SAHARA

POLISARIO 'OPERATION' AGAINST SPANISH SEAMEN REPORTED

LD220939 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 16 Feb 80 p 3 LD

[Unattributed report: "Mercenaries from Algiers Planning an Operation Off Our Saharan Coasts Involving Spanish Naval Personnel"]

[Text] On Wednesday the Arab-Language Paper AL ALAM, organ of the independence party (Istiqlal), published a report that Algerian mercenaries are planning an "operation" involving Spanish naval personnel to draw public attention to the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the coming into force of the 26 February Madrid tripartite agreement.

The daily reports that, according to information from Madrid, the operation would involve provoking an incident off the Sahara coast in which Spanish sailors would be "kidnaped" and taken to Tindouf for press conferences.

According to AL ALAM, the point of this "operation" is that the "POLISARIO" is in need of propaganda, a point demonstrated by the slight importance accorded to it at the present session of the Organization of African Unity.

The newspaper recalls that the "scenario being planned is nothing more than a repeat of those carried out several times before and after the Green March."

Finally, AL ALAM believes that the display of support for the "POLISARIO" organized recently in Las Palmas is in fact nothing but a prelude to the operation currently in preparation.

EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR ARRIVES; BEN-ELISAR DEPARTS 24 FEB

TA241424 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 24 Feb 80 TA

[Text] A few minutes ago Egypt's first ambassador, Sa'd Murtada, arrived in Israel. A few minutes later Israel's ambassador, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, left for Cairo.

On his arrival, the Egyptian ambassador said that a page of suffering and struggle had been closed and a new era opened. The diplomatic relations between the two countries are the first expressions of the normalization.

Our correspondent, Dan Eshel, reports that Dr Ben-Elisar left for Cairo this afternoon with his secretary, Rani Ashkenazi. He said he was bringing Egypt the news of peace and expressed his belief that other neighbors would join in the peace process. Before Ambassador Murtada left for Israel, he met with President as-Sadat for a talk in Cairo.

Murtada Statements on Arrival

TA242005 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 24 Feb TA

[Report on news conference by Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada on his arrival in Tel Aviv--videotaped]

[Excerpt] [Murtada in English] If I am going to present my credentials to the head of the state in Jerusalem, you know that we have a kind of reserve about recognition. That does not necessarily, that does not mean we recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. On the contrary, we object to that, and we consider Jerusalem as part of the occupied Arab lands.

[TV announcer--in Hebrew] Will there be contacts with the inhabitants of the territories?

[Murtada--in English] Well, I will not convince anybody, but I am ready to talk and listen to anybody who wants to contact me.

[Unidentified correspondent--in English] How significant are the pro-Palestinian expressions and demonstrations which occurred in Egypt in the last week? How significant are they? Don't they represent public opinion in Egypt?

[Murtada--in English] You must understand the bitterness which has been accumulated during all these years of animosity. Of course, people are always sentimental and sometimes they get nervous and they.... But that does not lead to any political conclusions.

[TV announcer--in Hebrew] Will the settlements be an obstacle to his work, he was asked.

[Unidentified correspondent--in English] Do you see the settlements as an obstacle to your job?

[Murtada--in English] Yes, I do.

Additional Report on Ambassadors

TA241616 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 24 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Egypt's first ambassador to Israel, Sa'd Murtada, arrived in Israel this afternoon and at a press conference said that the settlements in the occupied territories would hamper his work.

Israel's ambassador to Egypt, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, left for Egypt a few minutes after the Egyptian ambassador arrived and he said that Israel views the settlements with much importance. He said that we are in dispute with Egypt on this issue and we will continue to discuss it. In his opinion, settlements are not a barrier.

The two ambassadors met at Ben-Gurion Airport and shook hands. Ambassador Murtada told journalists that he will not initiate contacts with Palestinians from Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, but if they come to him he will speak with them.

The two ambassadors will present their credentials--each in his location--the day after tomorrow.

KAMAL HASAN 'ALI ARRIVES, GREETED BY WEIZMAN 25 FEB

TA251016 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 25 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Egyptian Defense Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali was given a full-fledged military ceremony upon his arrival in Israel about an hour ago as Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman's guest. The defense minister told his guest that Israel would do everything to solidify peace and the good relationship between the two countries. Both armies still have a lot to do, said Weizman. He added that Israel would do everything according to the peace treaty.

General 'Ali replied that he was happy to visit Israel again at the head of two delegations: first, a delegation for normalization affairs; and second, a military delegation which will negotiate the final stage of the IDF's withdrawal from the Sinai. He pointed out that the subcommittees on normalization have scored impressive achievements.

Our correspondent, Meron Tzur, notes that among those welcoming the Egyptian minister were the chief of staff, district commanders, representatives of the normalization committees and the new Egyptian ambassador to Israel, Sa'd Murtada.

General 'Ali will stay in Israel for 5 days. Among other places, he will tour Masada, the Galilee and military industrial enterprises.

EGYPT DEMANDS INSPECTION OF DIPLOMATIC POUCH

TA240627 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 24 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Another hitch on the eve of the mutual presentation of credentials: Israeli diplomatic mail that reached Cairo at the end of last week was returned to Israel after the Egyptians demanded to examine the contents of the pouch. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports:

[Begin recording] This is not a diplomatic incident, the Foreign Ministry spokesman soothes us. It is simply a misunderstanding that will be rectified. An Israeli Air Force plane was unloading some gear on Friday, 1.5 tons of equipment that was described as diplomatic mail. A preliminary notice was sent to the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, but customs officers at Cairo airport demanded to open the parcels. The Israeli Embassy's Charge d'Affaires Yosi Hadas, who was at the airport, refused, explaining to the Egyptians that this was diplomatic mail which, according to diplomatic norms, need not be examined. Minister Gid'on Pat and his Egyptian host, who had been at the airport at the time, also tried to convince the airport officials, but to no avail. The plane was forced to return with its load, taking along Minister Gid'on Pat, who had ended his visit in Egypt. [end recording]

MINISTER PAT REPORTS ON TALKS IN CAIRO

TA231336 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 23 Feb 80 TA

[Excerpt] Our correspondent Harley Brademan, who was visiting at Ben-Gurion Airport yesterday for the return home from Egypt of Industry, Commerce and Tourism Minister Gid'on Pat, asked him what he had achieved in the field of tourism. [begin recording]

[Pat] First of all, I think that either today or at the latest, Sunday, a memorandum of understanding will be signed between the two delegations that have negotiated for the last 10 days. Our delegation was headed by the director general of the ministry, Mr Yoram Ziv, and the spirit of the negotiations was very good. I met the minister of tourism and civil aviation and the minister of industry. Both of them accepted my invitations and will be coming to Israel in the later part of April. I found them to be very cooperative--the two ministers--and we will give them a very beautiful, very friendly reception. All in all, I think that we contributed to the normalization. It was pointed out by all the representatives of the government that this is the first visit under the umbrella of normalization, and that's why they viewed it as important.

[Brademan] Do you find any problem in the sense that the Egyptians wish to go rather slower than Israel wishes to go?

[Pat] I didn't find it in the field of tourism. On the contrary, in the field of tourism I found the minister of tourism to be very anxious for Israeli tourists to start coming to Egypt. And he hopes to improve his figures for the year 1980, as far as tourists coming to Egypt [are concerned] with the addition of a few or many thousands of Israelis who will be coming to Egypt from Israel. And he asked me specifically to help promote such travel, and he promised that he will do the same on the other side. In other fields, naturally, there is a little bit of--I would say--a sense of reluctance. But we have to remember that we in Israel do not have a problem of 13 Arab countries objecting to the normalization and blaming our government for going ahead with the peace treaty, and they do have that problem. [end recording]

AS-SADAT DISCUSSES PEACE PROCESS, U.S. ARMS, JERUSALEM

TA231427 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 23 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat says that the contradictory approaches of Israel and Egypt to the normalization, the Israeli haste in contrast to Egypt's cautious attitude, spring from a difference in approach and lifestyle between the two countries. The history of the Israelis, As-Sadat says, is the explanation of the fact that they need repeated guarantees that everything is being conducted as it should be. This is the reasen they are hurrying with the normalization and this is illustrated, As-Sadat says, by the wave of criticism by Israelis, both officials and others. They explain that they cannot guarantee the future and so they rush to take the opportunity of visiting Egypt at once. Now, As-Sadat believes, both sides should widen the lenses, as photographers do, so as to see each other and understand each other.

On other matters, he said Egypt wants modern U.S. weapons because the Middle East is burning and it [Egypt] also wants arms to defend other Arab countries.

About the autonomy negotiations, As-Sadat said that Egypt was firm in its intention of implementing the autonomy and the liberation of the West Bank and, in this context, East Jerusalem is a national objective of the Egyptian nation and not a tactical matter.

JERUSALEM VIEWS SYRIAN PLANS IN LEBANON

TA250629 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 25 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Is Lebanon at long last becoming a Syrian protectorate? A Syrian plan to create such a situation is being imposed on the Lebanese Government, which has so far rejected it. The halt in the movements of the Syrian Army in Lebanon is being exploited for this purpose. The Syrians have been trying to impose their plan on the Lebanese leaders in a series of meetings held in Damascus and Lebanon. Our correspondent, Roni Daniyel, reports the details of the plan.

The Syrian plan for achieving a national reconciliation agreement in Lebanon and a defense agreement between the two countries also includes--apart from arrangements which will give legality to the presence of Syrian units in Lebanon--economic arrangements that will strengthen their relationship. Both of the agreements take into consideration the new Syrian strategic deployment in Lebanon.

According to the Syrian plan--which the Lebanese leaders are vehemently trying to reject--Syria will be able to station its forces along the Lebanese border, not far from the Israeli border.

In a series of visits to Damascus, Lebanese Prime Minister Salim al-Huss has been trying to reject this plan. However, the important gains for the Syrians included in this plan have encouraged them to keep on exerting pressure.

If such a defense agreement is accepted, the Syrian presence in Lebanon will be legitimized, and, this time, based on a direct agreement between the two governments and not on an Arab League Mission. An Israeli intervention in the events will then be more difficult because Israel would then be interfering in the affairs of a state which had, in fact, determined its future and agreed to a Syrian presence.

This move is also accompanied by an economic agreement which the Syrians are also trying to impose. If the agreement is accepted, custom duties will be cancelled, visas for travel from one country to the other will not be necessary and the prices of various items will be equal.

Authorized Israeli circles regard this Syrian plan as a further step which, if successful, will get the Syrians closer to the final goal they desire: The annexation of Lebanon and the creation of Greater Syria.

EMIGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS DECLINING

TA250836 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 25 Feb 80 p 7 TA

[By Re'uven 'Asor]

[Text] About 2,300 Jews arrived in Vienna around the beginning of February, and it may be assumed that the number of people leaving the Soviet Union will reach 2,700 by the end of this month. A similar number of Jews left the Soviet Union in January, and this is an appreciable drop in comparison with the last months of 1979.

The number of "dropouts" who do not travel on to Israel dropped in comparison with the figures for the end of last year. It will apparently be 60 percent in comparison with more than 70 percent last year. It is estimated that there will be about 1,400 of them in February.

The Jews who reached Vienna reported that the number of exit permits given in the Ukraine had been significantly reduced, and it is assumed that this number will continue to be decreased the closer we get to the date of the Olympic games. Among other things, there is a technical reason for this: The passport offices are a part of the Soviet Ministry of the Interior, whose clerks are already being swamped with requests for entry permits for the Olympics and who are having difficulty in finding time for other business.

CABINET SESSION BROACHES QUESTION OF EGYPT'S U.S. ARMS

TA241255 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 24 Feb 80 TA

[Excerpt] Defense Miniser 'Ezer Weizman broached at today's Cabinet session the issue of U.S. arms shipments to Egypt and stressed it must be understood that Egypt's access to Moscow is out of the question on this subject. It is therefore natural that the Egyptians are approaching Washington. Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir expressed similar thoughts. Minister Weizman said that before he raises the subject for a detailed discussion and adoption of resolutions, he will consult with the prime minister. The subject of Hebron was not raised at the Cabinet session.

Campaign for Aid Cut

TA250605 Jerusalem POST in English 25 Feb 80 p 1 TA

[Text] Israel will soon embark on a campaign to persuade the United States to moderate the pace and scope of its arms sales to Egypt. Well-placed sources said yesterday that Israel's efforts would be directed "at the quantities, the qualities, and the flow of arms," that the United States is considering selling to Egypt.

There is understanding--or at least resignation--here, the sources said, to Egypt's right to expect weapons supplies from America following the peace treaty and following its breach with Moscow. But Israel believes it can still put in justified reservations regarding some systems and regarding proposed supply schedules, which Israel would like to see extended over longer periods.

Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman urged fellow policymakers yesterday not to rush to conclusions, but rather to weigh carefully the political significance of the U.S.-Egypt arms deals.

Justice Minister Schmuel Tamir told newsmen after a ministerial consultation that Israel had the "right and duty to make its voice heard." It was natural, he said, for Egypt to ask for and receive arms from the United States now. But it would be unnatural if the United States did not take account of Israel's need to keep its guard up on the eastern front, and of the statements sometimes made in Egypt regarding possible involvement in a conflict between Israel and its other neighbours. "There must be careful consideration regarding both quality and quantity" of weapons, Tamir urged.

BEGIN'S PROPOSAL FOR HEBRON DISCUSSED; 'EVRON REVIEWS U.S. RELATIONS

TA221208 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 22 Feb 80 p 8 (supplement) TA

[Arye Tzimuqi commentary: "Begin is inclined toward a compromise on the Hebron issue: the establishment of a Hesder Yeshiva in some of the Jewish houses"]

[Text] "Why did Israel have to make a decision about settling Jews in Hebron just when the autonomy talks were at their height and the peace process was continuing?" This was U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's reaction to the government's decision on this issue.

The remarks were made politely in a personal message that Vance sent to Begin in which he expressed the hope that the decision would not be implemented for the present and not cause unnecessary tension in Hebron and other places in the West Bank. Vance stressed that the implementation of the decision would harm the autonomy talks and efforts to advance the peace settlement.

The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Donald McHenry, was less adherent to the rules of politeness than his boss. He spoke in a strong and unequivocal manner to 'Ezer Weizman and senior officials in the Foreign Ministry, saying that the settlement of Jews in Hebron is not consistent with a desire to successfully conclude the autonomy negotiations. McHenry added, "The United States will not be able to stand by Israel for long if it conducts this settlement policy." Similar remarks were made to Israeli officials and other people in Washington by Assistant Secretary of State Harold Saunders.

In such a situation it is doubtful if Begin's reply to Vance's message will be conducive to calm in Washington. In his message Begin again claims the right of Jews to settle in Hebron, as in any other place in Eretz Yisra'el, as long as this does not harm the rights of Arab inhabitants. The prime minister reiterated the principles that guide the Israeli Government on the settlement issue stressing the defense implications of the issue.

Begin is firm in his decision to go through with settling Jews in Hebron despite U.S. opposition--a country which is friendly to us and views us as a very important strategic asset in the region. It is possible that Begin will raise his proposal as a compromise between those who demand massive Jewish settlement in Hebron--Arik Sharon being their chief spokesman in the government--and those who oppose settling Jews in the town, at least for now--they include Ministers Ehrlich, Weizman and Yadin, who do not dispute the right of Jews to settle in all parts of Eretz Yisra'el but dispute the timing of the decision. As a compromise proposal the prime minister is inclined toward establishing a Hesder Yeshiva, which has a paramilitary nature, in one or two of the Jewish houses in Hebron.

The Americans are not hiding their dissatisfaction with the lack of progress in the autonomy talks. They do not feel that it will be possible to conclude the talks by May, and they are, therefore, inclined toward adopting new initiatives to achieve a minimum of progress on the autonomy issue. This is manifest in the numerous messages that Sol Linowitz has sent to Begin and Burg and in the talks that he is holding with various people in which he repeatedly talks of the urgent need to find solutions to the disputed issues in the autonomy negotiations. This American activity will increase as the target date for the conclusion of the autonomy talks, 25 May, draws near. Its aim is to advance the autonomy talks by proposing new initiatives.

Is there understanding between Israel and the United States? What is the significance of the lack of understanding and differences between the two countries and how are these manifest? Israel's ambassador to Washington, Efrayim 'Evron, explained in detail to the government last week the relations between the United States and Israel and concluded that, despite the existing differences between Washington and Jerusalem and "thanks" to recent events in the region, Israel's status in the United States has been strengthened. Among other things, 'Evron pointed to a recent Gallup poll, which showed that by a majority of two to one Americans prefer maintaining friendship with Israel over the supply of oil from the Arabs.

'Evron said that it was Governor Connally--who began his election campaign with a strong attack on Israel because he thought that this would increase his popularity--who admitted that this move had been a big mistake. At a meeting with 'Evron Connally said that thousands of Americans, most of them gentiles, demanded that he retract his anti-Israel statements, otherwise they would not vote for him. "I was wrong and sinned," Connally concluded.

The U.S. administration has no doubt about the stability and credibility of the Israeli Government and the general opinion is that one can rely totally on the IDF in times of trial that might come to our region.

In 'Evron's opinion, the American Government and people are undisputedly in favor of the friendship which Israel should be shown and of the need to continue the large scale military and economic aid that it receives.

However, 'Evron added and stressed, we must not forget certain basic tenets which, to a certain degree, determine the moves of the U.S. administration:

--The United States is finding itself in an economic crisis which is manifested by inflation, unemployment and an increased defense budget coupled with an attempt to cut down government spending. When one minister treated with flippancy the amount of U.S. aid to Israel 'Evron stressed that the amount allocated to Israel is one third of all U.S. foreign aid to friendly countries. 'Evron reacted with irony to the flippant remarks saying: The annual aid allocated to Israel, both as a grant and a loan, together with the amount to finance the new airfields in the Negev will amount to $5 billion this year.

--There is an increasing desire among the American people to take a firm position of the energy issue and build a military force that will be able to defend the interests of the United States and its allies. One of the central problems in this sphere is how to strengthen the position of the United States in the Persian Gulf.

What the Americans are trying to do is to move toward the establishment of a new military deployment in the area with an awareness of the fact that the existence of a strong Israel serves as an important strategic asset.

On the other hand, influential circles in the U.S. administration maintain that it is necessary to apply pressure to make progress on the Palestinian issue, because without such progress it will be difficult to formulate a new political and strategic deployment in the region including Saudi Arabia, the oil emirates and Jordan. Time is pressing, these circles maintain, because developments are breaking quickly and they have to be kept up with.

Egypt, which is now a staunch friend of the Western world is isolated in the Arab world. Therefore, according to these circles, all efforts must be made to advance the autonomy talks, this being the only way to enable Cairo to take its deserved place in the Arab world again.

The Americans have recently been making another claim: One must consider the possibility of the awakening and strengthening of the opposition in Egypt if the autonomy talks run aground.

The stark reports coming from Israel, the presence of many Israeli emigres in the United States and especially inaccurate reports about an improper attitude toward the Arabs in the territories slur Israel's good name, says Ambassador 'Evron with concern and bitterness. The administration will take account of a strong Israel, and its public and moral integrity is no less important than its military might.

Mention should also be made of Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman's remarks on the praise that was showered on Ambassador 'Evron in the government: "There has been a detente accompanied by personal friendship for 45 years between me and 'Evron," he stressed--probably to wipe out the impression created by his critical remarks about 'Evron made a few weeks ago at one of the Cabinet's sessions.

PERES CRITICIZES LIKUD ON AIRFIELDS, SETTLEMENTS

TA232050 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1920 GMT 23 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Haifa, 23 Feb--Examinations by the Ministry of Defense and the air force show that $600 million, which is 24 billion Israeli pounds, could have been saved had Israel constructed the airfields in the Negev by itself. This was disclosed by Shim'on Peres today in a lecture he gave in Bet Abba Hushi, Haifa.

Peres stressed that the handing over of the construction of the Negev airfields to Americans was a blunder by the government. "At a time when 6 billion pounds in subsidies were being taken away from our children, work was being given to outsiders and hundreds of millions of unnecessary dollars were being paid," he said. In this context he added that even the handing over of the work of constructing the jetty in Hadera, which will cost about $50 million, was no small matter, especially at a time when the economy is suffering a slump and there were many people unemployed.

Referring to the settlements issue, Peres said that if the Alinement were to come to power, the settlements in such densely populated areas as Nabulus would not remain under Jewish sovereignty. And if it was necessary to remove settlements, this government would not hesitate to do so. However, he insisted that the settlements in the Jordan Valley were important to the State of Israel from the security viewpoint and would remain under Israeli sovereignty, with the IDF defending them.

As for the expected partnership with the NRP when the time comes, Peres said that he hoped that this time he would not need the aid of coalitions to establish a government, but if he really did need partners, the NRP ought to know that education would remain in the hands of the Labor Party and the Alinement.

MINISTER HAMMER DENIES RIFT IN NRP LEADERSHIP

TA241426 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 24 Feb 80 TA

[Text] Minister of Education Zvulun Hammer said today that Dr Burg was acceptable to him as the number one man in the NRP. According to him there is no rift in the leadership of the National Religious Party.

In an interview with our correspondent Razi Barqay, Minister Hammer said that there are several elements in the NRP who are interested in creating a split in the party. However, he hopes that the NRP will not again return to the period of internal disputes of a few years ago. The minister of education emphatically denied the reports that he and his colleague Minister Abu-Hatzera had threatened to go to the prime minister and announce that Dr Burg was no longer acceptable to them as the party's leader.

NABULUS MAYOR ON WEST BANK, MCHENRY VISIT

JN211337 Amman AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 21 Feb 80 pp 1, 17 JN

[Interview with Mayor of Nabulus Bassam ash-Shak'ah conducted by AL-AKHBAR correspondent Muham Ad Ka'wash on 20 February in Amman]

[Excerpts] Bassam ash-Shak'ah, mayor of the occupied city of Nabulus, has said that the occupation authorities have changed the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron into a Jewish Synagogue. The authorities have mounted Jewish slogans on all the walls of the Mosque and have not allowed Muslims to use anything but a small corner for their prayers.

In a statement to the newspaper AL-AKHBAR upon his arrival in Amman yesterday to follow up on issues concerning the Nabulus municipality, Ash-Shak'ah said: The masses in the occupied territories, especially the citizens of Hebron who have been exposed to acts of vengence and massive punishment, are determined to resist and prevent the establishment of settlements.

[Question] What about the Al-Aqsa popular conference?

[Answer] They [the Israelis] particularly wanted to prevent the convening of the conference at Al-Aqsa Mosque. Therefore, they tried to change the conference into a very limited one. But when they failed, they prevented the mayors from coming to Jerusalem. However, the preparatory committee issued a statement and adopted several decisions. The statement was distributed in Al-Aqsa Mosque as well as in all the cities and villages in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Several meetings were also held in the municipalities.

[Question] What are your expectations concerning the stage following the normalization of relations, the opening of borders and the exchange of diplomatic representation between As-Sadat and Israel?

[Answer] It is clear that the Camp David partners are trying to impose the treaty as a fait accompli despite our people's rejection. The Camp David framework was originally formulated to serve the policies of the parties hostile to the peoples in this region. My future expectations are that the Camp David accords, the normalization treaty and all outcomes of Camp David will be doomed to failure because our people in the occupied territories, our Arab nation, the Islamic world and all the nations in the world reject this renewal of the policy of alliances and hostility to peace.

[Question] Are there any U.S. contacts with personalities in the occupied territories?

[Answer] The U.S. consul tried to convince and tempt the mayors to hold meetings with Sol Linowitz, President Carter's envoy to the Middle East region. He told them that this is different from the others, but the national organizations reject the principle of opening dialog with any representative of the Camp David partners.

[Question] What was the outcome of the recent meeting between U.S. United Nations representative McHenry and Hikmat al-Masri, Anwar Nusaybah and Ilyas Frayj?

[Answer] In his statements, Anwar Nusaybah said that the purpose of the meeting was to show cooperation with the U.S. envoy. As for the national forces and mayors, their stand is well known. They reject any meeting with any representative of the Camp David partners because the latter do not recognize the PLO and the Palestinian people. The Camp David framework is a conspiratorial one. Their aim in visiting the West Bank is well known: It is an attempt to find a replacement for the PLO and to open dialog within the framework of the Camp David accords.

HEBRON MAYOR BANNED FROM UN SESSION

TA250632 Jerusalem POST in English 25 Feb 80 p 3 TA

[By Ian Black]

[Text] Hebron Mayor Fahd al-Qawasimi will not be permitted to go to New York to attend a UN Security Council discussion on the situation in the West Bank in general and in his town in particular.

Military sources confirmed yesterday that the mayor would not be allowed to attend the discussion, although there was no reason, they said, to prevent him from carrying out strictly municipal duties, including visiting Jordan if necessary.

The decision was taken after top-level consultations in the Ministry of Defense and the office of the IDF's coordinator of operations in the administered territories, the sources said.

The Security Council debate, requested by the Moroccan-led UN Islamic group and Jordan, began on Friday night and will continue today. The East Jerusalem Arabic press yesterday gave prominence to news of its discussions and preliminary reports that Al-Qawasimi would not be allowed to attend.

The Hebron mayor said yesterday that if not permitted to go to New York to state his case he would distribute a memorandum highlighting the points he had intended to make. These would include, he said, an explanation of the "principle of mutuality," according to which he would have no objections to Jews living in Hebron if Arabs were allowed to return to property left in Israel in 1948.

A general strike is expected to be held in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip tomorrow to publicize objections to the accreditation of the Egyptian ambassador, Sa'd Murtada. The strike call was issued on Saturday by the pro-PLO National Guidance Committee.

AFGHANISTAN

GOVERNMENT ISSUES STATEMENT ON KABUL DISTURBANCES

LD221930 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 22 Feb 80 LD

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate and merciful. Here is an announcement of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA]:

The government of the DRA announces loudly and with assurance to the peace-loving Afghan people and to all free people in the region and in the world, to all national and progressive people of the world and to all peace-loving nations and governments, that bloodthirsty U.S. imperialism, British imperialism, and the provocative imperialism of (?China), with the reactionary forces of Pakistan and China and the benefit of Israeli collaboration in an obvious and treacherous manner have embarked on an armed struggle in the undeclared war on the territory of Afghanistan, employing mercenaries and paid army groups, who have started provocations in the city of Kabul, by sending these mercenaries and hirelings who have killed and killing en masse the peaceful people.

According to the latest information on the plots of the American CIA, Pakistani and American saboteurs and spies with arms, documents, microphones, tapes, photographs and a large amount of money--U.S. dollars, Pakistani kaldars, Afghani, [word indistinct] and English pounds--along with the hirelings have entered various parts of Kabul, in particular the Zamir, Metropol, (Shar) and national hotels, and other parts of the city. They have been captured in other parts of the city and have been [word indistinct]: They will be brought to the notice of the people via the revolutionary tribunal and press organs.

It is announced to the world that with reliance on almighty God the victorious people of Afghanistan, the DRA Government and state, the security and freedom armed forces and the national patriotic and progressive forces, under the guidance of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA], in a united national front as one body will resist the external and internal enemies of Afghanistan and any kind of provocations and encroachments and will like a river and a strong mountain defend the honor of the country's integrity, of our sons, sisters, mothers and fathers, this life and freedom, the sovereignty of our sacred country Afghanistan, its national and territorial integrity, peace and security in the region, just as our victorious forefathers did who resisted the colonial British and provided our people with a worthy example. In the just and rightful struggle we will proceed without fear.

Compatriots and people of the world: We have a strong and unbreakable determination that we will pursue the national and democratic Sawr Revolution which is antireactionary and antiimperialist and which advocates the freedom struggle of the people of Afghanistan against the British, world-plundering U.S. imperialism and the dark reactionary forces of Pakistan and the struggle against Beijing's chauvinism and their lackeys, and as in the past we will succeed.

But as for the consequences of this unjust and provocative war which is contrary to human rights, peace and calm in Afghanistan and the region and which is fought by imperialist, reactionary and armed provocateurs, that is, bloodthirsty U.S. imperialism, Zionism and warmongering Beijing chauvinism, it is especially the dark reactionary and provocative Pakistan which will be held responsible.

Our oppressed compatriots and noble people of the world: Do you know that the perfidious and cruel enemies of Afghanistan with all their immoral and savage attitude are fighting against revolutionary Afghanistan and against the objectives of the Sawr Revolution, especially against the new phase of the Sawr Revolution, and are engaging in provocations and sabotage in our internal affairs. That is why the united PDPA, government and state of the DRA have foiled the perfidious conspiracy of the U.S. imperialism and the CIA regarding Amin and his band. Instead it proclaimed peace and security democracy and progress, justice and humanity, brotherhood and equality for our people and our country of Afghanistan. The pillars of [word indistinct] of the party, armed forces and the forces of the people have been strengthened and have been victoriously defending the objectives of the Sawr Revolution, our freedom-loving people and our independent country. Let the enemies of peace and of our country of Afghanistan, that is, reaction and imperialism from the base of Pakistan, whose people have made the object of [word indistinct], learn another lesson from the land of the Afghans.

We warn the region's and the world reactionary forces that the victorious and revolutionary Afghanistan is not alone. The largest freedom-seeking force of the world, the undefeatable force of peace, independence and progress of the world, is with Afghanistan and will always remain with it.

Let us cut off the reactionary and bloodstained hands of Pakistan, U.S. imperialism and Chinese chauvinism from the land of Afghanistan!

RADIO KABUL REPORTS IMPOSING OF MARTIAL LAW

LD232328 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 23 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Here is an announcement by the Ministry of Interior and the security organs:

Dear and noble countrymen: From the morning of 22 February foreign mercenaries, placemen of the British, the United States, Pakistan and China have engaged in provocations and apparent destruction against the independence, security and peace of the people of Kabul.

For the sake of democratic rights and human rights, and in accordance with the charter of human rights, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] has tried to halt and prevent their destructive and provocative actions. But these perfidious mercenaries, who are against the security of our country, have engaged in plundering and looting of private and public property. They looted shops and burned transportation vehicles. They did not stop at killing men, women and children, and our innocent and oppressed countrymen. You residents of Kabul are yourself witness to the crimes of these enemies of the country.

Therefore the Ministry of Interior of the DRA and the security forces, in order to preserve the life and property of the respected citizens, have considered it a duty to declare martial law in the city of Kabul so that the criminals of these actions can be punished most severely. Therefore, it is announced that:

1. For the sake of enforcing security, the 2000-0430 curfew should be seriously obeyed.
2. All citizens of Kabul who have no licence for carrying arms should return their arms to the police station of Kabul.
3. Gatherings of more than four persons are strictly forbidden.
4. The spread of all sorts of rumors and propaganda and actions that are antigovernment and antistate are strictly forbidden.

Those who act contrary to the military regulations in the city of Kabul will be dragged with speed to the military and revolutionary court and will be condemned and punished by the most serious military measures.

Noble countrymen: The government of the DRA is in control of the situation from every viewpoint, and has the power to confront any type of provocation or encroachment. Those who threaten the security and peace of our country should know that they cannot disturb the peaceful life of our citizens more than they already have.

The explanation for the internal and external sources for these provocations will be brought to the notice of our dear countrymen later.

Noble citizens of the city of Kabul, continue your daily activity with full security. Your sworn enemies will face a shameful defeat. The Government of the DRA is defending you and is in your service. Your external and internal enemies, following the new phase of the Sawr Revolution, are frightened from the steps that have been taken for your security, independence, prosperity and peace.

Wish you success.

RESTORATION OF ORDER IN CAPITAL PROMISED

ID232225 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 23 Feb 80 ID

[Text] Dear countryman: With the arms of the United States and China, in the past few days the criminal elements connected to the destructive foreign elements were trying persistently so that chaos would come to Kabul. Included among these armed criminals are a large number of Pakistani spies and the dark agent of the CIA from the United States by name of Robert Lee. Let all the foreign spies, the agents provacateurs who are against national security, the enemies of Islam and our almighty God and the noble people of our country be punished for their actions. Your revolutionary government with its powerful hand will restore order and peace in the capital and throughout the country very soon. No one should doubt this.

Honorable countrymen, sincere Muslims unite around the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and Babrak Karmal. The era of Amin rule, that bloodthirsty executioner, is over forever. But for the sake of not repeating this sad historic period, every Afghan, every religious Muslim should accomplish his duty in defending the country honorably.

Peasants, workers, patriotic religious leaders, the valiant soldiers of the armed forces, traders, teachers, doctors and intellectuals--preserve the peaceful life of your oppressed people. Defend your country against thieves and colonial intruders. Only in this way can you praise the great name of God and be honorable vis-a-vis the people and God.

SOVIET SOLDIERS LAUDED FOR DEFENDING REVOLUTION

ID232207 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1730 GMT 25 Feb 80 ID

[Text] In the course of creating unrest, disturbing the peace and upsetting the normal life of the noble citizens of Kabul; in accordance with the plans of the plundering imperialist forces, headed by aggressive U.S. imperialism and their dark Pakistani and Chinese allies, which have moved against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan starting yesterday; [sentence continue]

owing to the indefatigable efforts of the security forces party, social organizations and with the sincere unity and cooperation of informed elements in the city of Kabul; a number of the saboteurs and terrorists, with more than 200 kinds of machineguns, guns, explosive devices and hand grenades manufactured by the warmongering factories in the United States, Britain, Pakistan and China have been captured today.

According to reports in hand, the reactionary network of the dark internal elements, with the guidance of the known disappointed representatives related to the looting and plundering organizations of the imperialists, in accordance with the plan of the CIA, other imperialist spying organizations and with the close cooperation of the criminals--Egypt and Israel--once again [word indistinct] with the purpose of looting and plundering, wanted to implement operations and with the disturbance of peace, wanted to hastily upset the atmosphere of Kabul.

A BAKHTAR reporter writes that with the capture of arms made by the U.S. and Chinese imperialists and their mercenaries, the pace of life in the city of Kabul has been quickly normalized and the countries' security forces with patience and courage are trying to enforce security. The citizens of Kabul are volunteering to cooperate with the security forces of the country.

Dear countrymen, the real laws of Islam and the defenders of our dear abode--the free and independent Afghanistan--are the fighters for our prosperity and our country. The enemies of Islam and the enemies of the noble people of Afghanistan are spreading propaganda and the night letters [underground literature distributed after dark]. Their main purpose is to upset the tranquility of life and the peaceful atmosphere of cities and villages, and the calling to war and killing of brothers.' They seek to link Afghanistan to the cruel and oppressive American imperialism and its godless allies, the rulers of China and the reactionary circles of Pakistan.

The leaders of the brigand organization, the so-called Islamic movement of Afghanistan, are taking oaths in the name of God and falsely portray themselves as the defenders of Islam. Do not believe these criminals. They are lying shamelessly. You should know that they are neither our brothers nor are they real Muslims. Real Muslims never burn the homes of their coreligionists and countrymen. They never inflict cruelities against women and innocent children; they do not kill Muslims or dance to the tune of foreigners. The enemies of Islam and the enemies of the freedom-loving people of Afghanistan are shamlessly levelling false accusations against the USSR our great northern neighbor. The USSR has always been our best friend and will remain so. It has helped us in the building of our new peaceful life, and in the building of free and independent Afghanistan.

At present, too, upon the request of your own government, by sending its limited military contingents, the Soviet Union has answered honestly and manfully. The Soviet soldiers have left their mothers, wives and children so that they can sacrifice themselves defending the families and the people of Afghanistan against foreign intruders. The Soviet soldiers are defending us from foreign aggression. The nation's roads, by which wheat, rice and other provisions and firewood are transported to cities and villages, are guarded by them. The Soviet soldiers not only respect our sacred religion but are defending it, too, because our external and internal enemies always hope to demolish our country, burn mosques and schools and turn life into hell for our toilers.

KABUL WARNS OF INTERFERENCE BY U.S., BBC, PRC, FRG

ID241752 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 25 Feb 80 ID

[Excerpts] The interference of imperialism after the Saur Revolution in the region as well as in the world, (?has intensified under) the leadership of world-plundering imperialism.

Dear and noble countrymen, the history of your freedom struggles against the foreign occupiers, against the puppet amirs and kings of colonialism, against deceit and false-hood, against the cruelties of the rulers of Afghanistan is perfectly obvious. You also know that one of the chief goals of these enemies of the country's freedom and independence is to divert the attention of the country's people from genuine friendship and from the fraternal assistance of our great neighbor, the USSR. Now the time has come for the enemies of the country's honor and integrity and the progress of victorious Afghanistan, to admit that the friendly country of the USSR, over the past 60 years since the independence of Afghanistan, has helped our people in all material and moral ways. The USSR has helped us without fail and has extended its genuine cooperation from the most crucial days of our resurrection under Amanullah till today. Yet, accusations are levelled at the USSR.

Perfectly obvious to any of our sincere countrymen is the extent of Soviet material and moral assistance which is essential and necessary to our country. And so this countryman is grateful for this assistance. But today, that traditional enemy of Afghanistan, which appeared yesterday in different guise during the era of Amani and pushed the people of Afghanistan back a century by not allowing them the friendship of the USSR, today, in the shape of American imperialism and its Chinese and regional reactionary collaborators, wants once again, through the issue of perfidious and false propaganda to disrupt the relations of Afghanistan and the USSR. But the enemies of the friendship and brotherhood of Afghanistan and the USSR will take these wishes of their to the grave. Fraternal and peaceful Afghan-Soviet friendship is tied to the historical will of the people of Afghan-Soviet [word indistinct], is invincible and will remain (?undamaged forever].

The valiant and freedom-loving people of Afghanistan believe completely that throdgh self-reliance and friendly and fraternal cooperation with their great northern neighbor, the USSR, they will take great steps forward on the path to preserving independence, peaceful coexistence, the freedom of Afghanistan from cruelty and oppression--in democracy and progress, in justice and prosperity for the working people of the country and in the course of creating a new a proud Afghanistan which will be united and independent.

Freedom-loving and honorable sons of Afghanistan: You must be vigilant and aware so that once again that conspiracy of the gigantic organization, those sons of foreign colonialism, through their treacherous and disruptive policy, cannot incite and divide people among themselves as people against people, son against father, brother against brother, friend against friend, taking advantage of it themselves. You should not be deceived by the propaganda of our No 1 enemy, dark U.S. imperialism and its traditional allies, like the reactionary Chinese, the reactionary circles of Pakistan, the voice of the FRG. By neutralizing the voices of the BBC wheel turners, we should explain to the people that [word indistinct] of colonialism and international reaction, who seem themselves sinking, are making use of any antihuman and trivial means that they can to veil their dark deeds.

The BBC, from its unclean vocal cords, has been (?harping away) for years. These [words indistinct] are supported by the deviationist Chinese spokesmen and are making (?themselves heard) in Islamabad, the voice of the FRG, and the loudmouths of the VOA and at the end once again [word indistinct] are resolved.

EDITORIAL SLAMS CARTER'S AFGHAN NEUTRALITY PROPOSAL

LD241344 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 23 Feb 80 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] What sort of people are hiding behind the veil of the slogan: Soviet forces out of Afghanistan? The freedom-seeking people of our nation know that with a huge resurgence the April Revolution has entered a new phase.

But the new democratic and revolutionary steps taken have invoked the hostility of the darkest imperialist, internal and regional reaction. The U.S. imperialists and their servants, their Chinese allies, have caught their death fever.

Mr Carter has embarked on an anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet clamor. (?They treat the so-called Soviet presence in Afghanistan with eloquence and pomp). Mr Carter, who is himself the biggest meddler in the internal affairs of the countries of the world, has hidden himself behind the slogan that the Soviet forces must get out of Afghanistan, or the slogan that Afghanistan should be made a neutral region. Let us look at the truth. Is it not interference in the affairs of other countries to have over 200 U.S. bases outside the United States? Is the presence of American soldiers in Europe not an interference in the affairs of the European countries? Is the aggressive arming of Israel by the United States not an interference in the affairs of the toiling Arab Muslims? (?Look at these clear and shameful examples). What are all these made attempts for? Mr American Carter is apparently portraying himself as the leader of the world's Muslims. The question must be asked: Did the Israeli-American plane not bomb the Al-Aqsa mosque, that first Mecca of the world's Muslims? Is U.S. imperialism not siding with an protecting Israel, the No. 1 enemy of the Muslim Arab people? Are not thousands of men, women and children of the oppressed Arabs of Palestine not dying and vanishing because of the use of American weapons? How come Mr Carter in one place eliminates noble Muslims while in another place near to our country he supports the Muslims? If Mr Carter is in love with Islam why does he not embrace Islam? No, he was never a Muslim but is its number one enemy.

What is the purpose of this anti-Afghan and anti-Soviet clamor? What shameful aims are behind the slogan: Soviet forces out of Afghanistan? What sort of people are hiding their countenance?

The aim of these struggles and this clamor is animosity and struggles with international world history and the defamation of peaceful coexistence, friendship and cooperation with the USSR and the forces of peace and socialism in the world. What sort of people are asking the limited contingents of the Soviet Union to leave Afghanistan? What sort of people are mourning the executioner Amin?

Without doubt the Carters, Begins, As-Sadats and the oppressive kings and rationcollectors, and their chained and loyal local digs within the country. Shame on the dark reactionaries who are madly dancing for the bloodthirsty American imperialists. These men who are today braying pseudo antirevolutionary antidemocratic slogans, were silent yesterday when the infamous Amin and his band sent thousands of our countrymen to prison, torture them and killed hundreds of thousands of our people. Where were they then? Are all these shouts and clamor not a sign of a return to the bloodthirsty killer Amin? Of course they are. Despite this if Mr Carter, this champion of opposition to and interference in the order of our country, why is he not saying anything against the training of groups of hired men against our country? How should we consider the interference of the dark spying organization of the United States? When Mr Brzezinski, the loyal messenger of Carter, visits the camps of those who have fled and sold themselves, and incites them against our country and against our revolution, is this not an obvious interference in the internal affairs of our country? The limited military contingents of the USSR have come to our country in our defense against the aggression of America, China and their regional allies, for the security of the region the indepenr dence, territorial integrity and national sovereignty of our country, not for aggression. If the interference by the United States and its chained dogs, like the leadership of China, in our internal affairs can be stopped, the peace and security of the region will be guaranteed. These limited contingents may leave our country. But let the imperialists and their reactionary bowl-lickers scream. They have shouted and cried, but the April Revolution is successful and will not revert from its course.

The mad struggles of the United States and its chained dogs is like catching water in a sieve or the wind in the desert. Long live the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan; long live the valor and bravery of our people; cut off the hands of the U.S. meddlers and their chained dogs from our country.

KARMAL ATTENDS SOVIET EMBASSY RECEPTION

LD232200 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 23 Feb 80 LD

[Text] Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA], chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, attended the reception on Thursday evening which was held in the Soviet Embassy in Kabul. Others attending the reception included Asadollah Sarwari, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the PDPA, vice president of the Revolutionary Council and deputy premier, some other members of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the PDPA, members of the presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, some members of the council of ministers and the ranking party members, ranking officers from the armed forces, ranking civil officials, ambassadors and military attaches of friendly countries in Kabul.

RADIO COMMENTS ON SOVIET MILITARY 'ASSISTANCE'

LD232253 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 23 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpts] Today, 23d February, coincides with the 62nd anniversary of the Soviet Red Army. And on this occasion we shall now bring you a talk entitled "The Red Army--A Main Factor for Upholding Peace."

The actions of the Soviet Armed Forces have always had a broad international significance throughout their 62-year long history. It is in the order of things that the army inherits the historic mission of the proletariat which has created it and of the peaceful Soviet state.

The enemies of socialism have always attempted to depict the liberation mission of the Soviet Armed Forces as a Red threat. They have been spreading lies about the aggressive nature of the first world socialist (state.) So there is nothing new about the Soviet threat myth.

Imperialism has not changed its aggressive nature. The danger of new world war has not been completely eliminated from human life. That is why it is not enough for the socialist countries to pursue peace-loving policies and expose aggressive imperialistic plans.

Today the Soviet Armed Forces and other socialist armies back the peoples rising to the liberation struggle against imperialism and neocolonialism. The anticommunist ideologists seek to present the socialist nations' assistance to those peoples as Soviet intervention in the domestic affairs of the newly free countries and the export of revolution. But the actual state of affairs proves the opposite. Today Western propaganda is doing its utmost to tarnish the USSR and accuse it of aggressiveness in connection with the sending to Afghanistan at the request of the Afghan Government of limited Soviet military contingents. The continued armed intervention in the [word indistinct] region of external reactionary forces has created a real danger for Afghanistan would lose its independence and become an imperialist military springboard on the southern border of the USSR. That is why the Soviet Union could not but meet the request of the government of friendly Afghanistan. It gave Afghanistan military aid and fulfilled the commitments of the treaty.

The people and the Government of Afghanistan are fully appreciative of this friendly and selfless assistance of the Soviet Union for the defense of freedom, territorial integrity of Afghanistan and preservation of the objectives of Sawr Revolution.

KABUL RECITES GOVERNMENT STEPS TO RESTORE ORDER

LD242002 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 24 Feb 80 LD

[Excerpts] As a result of the tireless and persistent efforts of the party and social organizations and the security forces, normality has been restored to the life of Kabul citizens after subversive and treacherous acts by the mercenaries of imperialism and the city people pursue their daily affairs with confidence. Today a large number of shops were open in Kabul, thanks to the security that prevails. Today, too, a number of the servants and mercenaries of reaction and imperialism who were engaged in the treacherous task of making trouble in various parts of the city and provoking shopkeepers to close their shops were arrested; they possessed explosive materials and weapons made in America, China and Pakistan.

The BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY correspondent adds that today a large number of the honorable citizens of Kabul saw the hotels, apartments and private and government transport vehicles in various parts of Kabul which have been set afire through the treacherous acts of the looters and troublemakers. They cursed those who so mercilessly plundered and destroyed the wealth of the nation. Following tireless struggles by the party and social organizations, the security forces with the honorable cooperation of the alert and struggling elements of Kabul, have arrested a number of troublemakers, agitators, mercenaries and agents of the sabotage networks, the regional and world reaction led by world-devouring American and British imperialism and their Chinese and Pakistani, [word indistinct], Egyptian and Israeli allies who embarked in the past 2 days on terror, trouble-making and treacherous sabotage in the city of Kabul. They have been arrested bearing irrefutable documents and evidence.

As the noble Kabul citizens saw, on 22 and 23 February a number of seditionist and trouble-making elements, following instructions from the plundering imperialist powers led by aggressive American imperialism and its miscreant Pakistani and Chinese allies, with the aid of the internal and regional reaction, embarked on a series of savage, treacherous and subversive acts against the interests and aspirations of the new stage of the Saur Revolution and plundered private and government properties and set fire to buildings, shops, libraries and transport vehicles in various parts of Kabul and pressured shopkeepers to close their shops. These criminal and professional terrorists mercilessly killed and wounded a number of the long-suffering citizens of Kabul, including women and children, with constant shooting and explosions and handgrenades made in the war factories of U.S., British, Pakistani and Chinese imperialism. These traitors to the homeland, peace and happiness of our people, terrorists and arsonists, most of whom had dollars, rupees, pounds, franks and deutschmarks in their pockets, were hiding in the back streets apartments and various parts of Kabul and embarked on terrorism, arson and massacre of innocent and helpless compatriots, plundered shops and looted their goods in order to defame the government, which is trying to defend the democratic rights of the people and defend their lives, property and honor. These mercenary traitors and lackeys of the domestic, regional and world black reaction, in order to disrupt order and make trouble in Kabul, embarked on provocation in the manner of American gangsters and shouted slogans against the well-being of the people and the revolutionary government.

According to the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY correspondents in Kabul, these troublemakers set fire to the Mayhan book shop, a part of the Park Hotel and some buildings in Maywand Watt, and transport vehicles and shops in various parts of Kabul and savagely attacked the Bayhaqi bookshop, smashed its windows and burned its books, including copies of the glorious Koran.

According to reports by the country's security officials, a number of Pakistani terrorists with Pakistan Government passports were arrested at about 2000 on Thursday, 21 February, in front of the Foroshgah-e Bozorg-e Afghan [a department store], at a time when they were engaged, along with domestic looters and troublemakers, in sabotage and arson. Some of them, as evidenced by investigation documents, were skilled in making handgrenades and other explosive devices.

The security forces add that government security forces exerted ample efforts at the outset to prevent this shameless aggression through peaceful means; it did not grant permission to the armed forces for 36 hours to open fire. But these humanitarian efforts of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan proved ineffectual and the enemy interpreted this honorable and humanitarian attitude on our part as tantamount to weakness and sought to disrupt order even further. Therefore, in order to maintain security and prevent killing and wounding [words indistinct].

The country's security forces add: as a result of continued efforts and investigation by the police, the party and social organizations and cooperation by the struggling and alert citizens of Kabul, a large number of these saboteurs, terrorists and murderers have been arrested with over 200 machineguns, rifles, explosive devices and handgrenades. Life in Kabul has improved and the people are pursuing their work and business.

With a statement issued in Kabul, the Interior Ministry announced that the Afghan Government is in full control of the situation and shall give a crushing reply to the conspiracies and provocation of reaction and imperialism. Those forces that threaten the peace and tranquillity of our homeland must know that they can in no way be allowed to disrupt the peaceful life of our dear compatriots further with such savage and destructive acts.

Dear compatriots, continue your daily life with confidence. Your [word indistinct] enemies have met with (?crushing defeat).

PROVOCATEURS REPORTEDLY ARRESTED, END TO STRIKE SOUGHT

LD242236 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 24 Feb 80 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear patriotic citizens of Kabul: The tense situation, which was the result of arson, plundering, the looting of shops [words indistinct] and the killing of women, men and innocent, helpless children in Kabul, has ended and things have returned to normal. The saboteurs, murderers, theives and mercenary spies of U.S. imperialism, Britain, China and Pakistani reaction--who embarked on a series of savage and murderous acts in Kabul--have invoked a crushing and stern reaction from the brave and courageous people of Kabul, the chain-breaking strugglers of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and all the Muslim people who believed in the achievements of the Sawr Revolution.

These subversive, destructive and aggressive groups have been arrested. Much gratitude is due to all the true patriots, to the struggling party, the Revolutionary Armed Forces and the struggling police and other courageous and struggling people of Kabul, who, with their lofty, patriotic morale and peerless valour and selflessness, crushed and defeated the reactionary, criminal and subversive groups.

Honorable shopkeepers, open your shops with [words indistinct] to your much-suffering compatriots and proceed with buying and selling in the atmosphere of security and freedom with a spirit of enthusiasm.

Patriotic officials, continue your duties in government offices with a feeling of patriotism and service to your people.

Chain-breaking workers, proceed with your constructive and productive work with the strong spirit of patriotism. Let the city of Kabul remain the base of your invincible struggle and constructive and victory-creating services, and let it be a city of peace, serenity and friendship.

Compatriots, it is being decisively announced: Those who embark on subversive acts, conspiracy and criminal (?propaganda) must realize that they will be treated in accordance with the law. Cursed be all the enemies of the noble religion of Islam, who, under their [words indistinct] and religious propaganda and lies violate the life, property and honor of the people in one and the same rank with the most criminal and savage representatives of imperialism and disrupt the people's calm and order.

Long live the strugglers of the PDPA, the revolutionary armed forces, the security force and all the patriotic people who fight against reaction and imperialism.

U.S., EGYPT, ISRAEL, 'COLLABORATORS' PLOTTING AGAINST COUNTRY

LD242050 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 24 Feb 80 LD

[Text] U.S. imperialism, the As-Sadat reaction and Begin's Zionism and their other collaborators are hatching a conspiracy against Afghanistan. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Foreign Ministry spokesman said that after the victory of the great Sawr Revolution, especially the new stage of the revolution, the devilish forces of imperialism, black reaction and Zionism, along with the expansionist Chinese communism as their ally, spare not a moment in conspiring against free and independent Afghanistan, while resorting constantly to religious beliefs andmaking use of Pakistan as a base against beloved Afghanistan. Our alert compatriots will remember that a while ago, As-Sadat this instrument of the historical goals of U.S. imperialism, friend and ally of Begin and the enemy of the world of Islam and progressive Arab masses, said that we would train bandits and Afghan criminals in Egypt, arm them and send them via Pakistan to Afghanistan for sabotage.

Following this statement by As-Sadat, the Egyptian minister of defense repeatedly confirmed and emphasized As-Sadat's statement. Our noble compatriots will remember that on the basis of reports from reliable sources, Israeli experts, together with American, Chinese, and Pakistani specialists are actively involved in training mercenaries and saboteurs in camps and bases in Pakistan. In view of certain other reports, one of the so-called leaders of these mercenary elements, who is an American citizen, has been in contact with the Israeli espionage networks and Begin and (?sacrificed his life) in order to obtain arms and facilities for saboteurs. In order to obtain financial and military aid for the bandits, this person had, as usual, made repeated contacts with the White House, the U.S. State Department and some members of the U.S. Congress. We remember well that it was U.S. imperialism which brought about the disgraceful Camp David agreement through As-Sadat and Begin, contrary to the aspirations and wishes of the Arabs, especially the struggling Arabs of Palestine. There can be no bigger treachery on the part of As-Sadat in collusion with imperialism and Zionism vis-a-vis the [words indistinct] and the just rights of the heroic people of Palestine. The establishment of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Israel is yet another shameful step in this connection.

The reactionary ruling and militarist circles of Pakistan, too, which cry on behalf of Islam, precisely on the first anniversary of the foul Camp David agreement, in collaboration with a number of the reactionary Arab countries, held the Islamic countries' conference in Islamabad so that, on the one hand, they would have shown themselves good servants to their imperialist and Zionist allies, and on the other hand, divert the attention of world public opinion U.S. conspiracies in the region and thus disguise the Camp David treason.

It should be pointed out that American and British imperialism, the regional and world reaction, Zionism and the Chinese communists--these sworn enemies--and [word indistinct] of the Muslim people of Afghanistan and Pakistan are hard at work, and are conspiring against the party, the government and the revolution of Afghanistan. The events of the recent few days in our country are clear evidence of this.

DEFENSE MINISTER ON RED ARMY, RECENT INCIDENTS

GF241752 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Feb 80 GF

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, the fraternal Soviet Union has celebrated the 62d anniversary of its armed forces. The Afghan armed forces have commemorated this occasion. All progressive forces in the world have celebrated it.

The Afghan defense minister has delivered a speech on this occasion. The following is a summary of his speech:

Citizens: It is clear that the Soviet Army not only participated in the great October Revolution in the Soviet Union; it also stood fast in the face of reaction, imperialism and Japanese fascism, and took part in the war against the fascist Hitlerite forces and saved the world during World War II, bringing the world peace, freedom, democracy and social progress.

The Soviet Armed Forces are the forces of peace. The heroic Soviet army succeeded in (?increasing) its capability to continue the struggle The Soviet Army has committed no aggression against the rights of peoples.

The Soviet Union has given fraternal aid to Afghanistan(?and) its armed forces to preserve the region's security. This aid has met with great opposition and criticism from the imperialist and lying Americans and their collaborators. The limited Soviet forces have come to Afghanistan to protect the interests of its oppressed masses. They have stood by the Afghan Armed Forces in the face of aggressor forces of the United States and its Chinese allies.

It is a fact that the Afghan masses have been subjected to the tyranny of Amin, that notorious U.S. spy. The Soviet Army saved our masses from his savage tyranny.

It should be said that the friendly and limited Soviet military aid to Afghanistan arrived on the basis of the treaty of friendship and good neigbborliness of 5 December 1978 and Article 51 of the UN Charter. This army did not give Amin and his followers or the U.S. imperialists and their clique the opportunity to shed more blood of our people.

Our masses today are according a splendid welcome to the limited Soviet military assistance. U.S. imperialism and its Chinese allies, by disseminating tendentious lies and propaganda, are seeking to defend the fascist Amin and Afghan reactionaries. These lies depict the limited Soviet military aid as military intervention in Afghanistan and not as [a response to] the free will of our masses.

Dear citizens, our masses are aware of the perfidious and dishonorable aims and savage interventions of U.S. imperialism and China and their reactionary allies in the area. The recent events in Kabul have clearly shown that a number of murderers and thieves have initiated armed campaigns in the city against the property and honor of the masses with the assistance and at the instigation of U.S. imperialism, China, Pakistan and Britain. Such traitors and agents of imperialism have attacked people's homes, set houses and stores on fire, and killed innocent people--even innocent children. Such monstrous actions once again expose the crimes of U.S. imperialism and its allies.

Our masses have seen these traitorous faces on television. The entire world knows that such actions expose the true face of imperialism in its savage alliance with Chinese chauvinism.

The criminal U.S. imperialists must realize that the limited Soviet Armed Forces have come to Afghanistan only to serve the interests of the Afghan masses. These forces want to defend Afghan territory. The Soviet forces will leave Afghan territory after the flagrant imperialist intervention and aggression against our territory ends. We say frankly that it is U.S. imperialism, its allies and its Chinese flunkeys who will be responsible for the deterioration of the situation in the area and not the Soviet Union.

AFP REPORTS STRIKE,'CONTINUOUS FIRING' IN KABUL 22 FEB

BK221324 Hong Kong AFP in English 1321 GMT 22 Feb 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 22 Feb (AFP)--Thousands of slogan-chanting Afghans have launched what may be the start of an all-out insurgency in Kabul, leaving the city in the grip of continuous firing and at least three people dead, reports reaching here from Kabul said today.

The reports, from impeccable sources, said the city was in the "grips of crisis." The Soviets had sent Mig-21s to buzz at rooftop level.

At least three major anti-Soviet demonstrations were said to have taken place in a tense climate punctuated by small arms fire. It was not immediately clear who was firing, but there were indications that Soviet troops might be returning sniper fire.

The gunfire began last night after a general strike, the first clear sign of coordinated anti-Soviet sentiment in Kabul, gripped the city.

The reports spoke of unusually heavy movements of Soviet armored personnel carriers overnight, after the start of chanting from rooftops "Allah Akbar" (God Is Great) and "Death to the Russians."

(An unconfirmed report quoted Kabul radio as announcing late today that martial law had been proclaimed.)

As of noon local time, the reports said, gunfire could be heard steadily throughout the city. Soviet troops, which initially hung back, were being moved up and placed in more visible positions, possibly as a show of force.

A Western correspondent was quoted as saying at least three civilians had been killed after an estimated 3,000 Afghans gathered outside the Kabul town hall waving the green flag of Islam. Another demonstration of an estimated 2,000 people took place simultaneously in the Sherpur part of the city, the reports said.

The reports said a Western resident had last night seen the burned-out hulk of a fire-truck in the middle of the street in the Jadimaywat section of Kabul. Armored vehicles of the Afghan Army were also being deployed in a bid to contain the mounting insurgency, the first large-scale outbreak of anti-Soviet violence since the massive Soviet armed intervention in December.

The outbreak followed the distribution of leaflets distributed by night calling for anti-Soviet demonstrations. The reports said the campaign had reached Kabul "with an unexpected degree of success," closing an estimated 95 percent of shops and businesses.

The general strike, which had already been in partial effect in key provincial centers such as Herat in the west and Qandahar in the south, was reportedly spreading throughout the country. Among the cities reportedly hit were Mazar-e Sharif, Baghlan, Vardak, Paktia (?Lazni, Jalil) [word indistinct] Maidan.

Analysts pointed out that today's disturbances coincided with the Moslem sabbath and that tomorrow will be a test of the movement's strength as the authorities try to force the reopening of shops.

In Kabul, latest reports said Soviet APC's were streaming into the city while Soviet troops were deployed guarding key buildings and installations.

Phone, Telex Links Cut

BK221502 Hong Kong AFP in English 1459 GMT 22 Feb 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 22 Feb (AFP)--The new Afghan authorities today cut telephone and Telex links to the outside world after the outbreak of rioting in Kabul. Minimal service had been restored following the Soviet-backed coup last December, though it had remained difficult to call from abroad. A spokesman for the New Delhi telephone exchange said the authorities in Kabul had radioed a message that the line was non-commercial until further notice.

Arrests Reported

OW221946 Paris AFP in English 1936 GMT 22 Feb 80 OW

[Excerpt] Islamabad, Feb 22 (AFP)--An unspecified number of people have been arrested following today's disturbances in Kabul, Radio Kabul monitored here reported tonight. The radio, indirectly admitting tension in the Afghan capital for the first time since Soviet troops entered Afghanistan, said in its late night Pushtu bulletin that according to recent information, the "CIA (U.S. Central Intelligence Agency) sent the U.S. and Pakistani spies, saboteurs and mercenaries to disturb life in the capital".

The radio said that a number of people were apprehended with "arms, documents, photographs and foreign currency, including British pounds, American dollars and Pakistani rupees". They were taken into custody from two hotels, the Jamil and the Metropole, and other places in Kabul where they had assembled in the day, the radio said.

Rooftop Protest

OW222003 Hong Kong AFP in English 1947 GMT 22 Feb 80 OW

[By Michael Lewis]

[Excerpts] Kabul, Feb 22 (AFP)--Tens of thousands of Afghans in Kabul who brought the commercial life of their city to a standstill today went on to their roofs tonight to shout Allah Akbar (God Is Great) in protest at the Soviet occupation of their country. Soviet tanks rumbling through the streets and the sound of automatic rifle and machine-gun fire could not drown the roar from thousands of throats which carried for miles over this city of one million people. The rooftop protest went on for more than four hours, culminating one of the most momentous days in the history of the capital, which began with a near total bazaar and city shop strike in response to night letters circulated by Moslem underground movements.

The strike was followed by the inexplicable closing by the Afghan Army of the international airport, reportedly after shooting nearby, and the state-owned Kabul NEW TIMES failed to appear for an unknown reason.

In the evening, for the first time in the capital, hundreds of demonstrators, mostly youths, took to the streets firing pistols wildly into the air.

The commercially paralysed city looked like a ghost town today with row upon row of shop fronts hidden behind boards, iron grills or corrugated iron sheets. Plainclothes police circulating in Soviet jeeps tried to force shopkeepers to reopen but in most cases had to retreat in the face of angry crowds. Those that did reopen closed again once the police moved on. Only essential items, such as bread, fish and vegetables, could be obtained. Loud-speaker vans toured the capital, appealing in vain for traders to reopen.

By late in the day police, who had been noticeably absent earlier, were on duty at almost every corner with sub-machineguns, even in the capital's main shopping area, Chicken Street.

There is no indication yet of how long the strike will continue, although five days has been rumoured. There have been demands in night letters for civil servants not to go to work on Saturday.

Taxi and private car owners also appear to be responding to night-letter calls to take their vehicles off the roads. Late today traffic in the city was almost half what it is normally.

Western diplomats reported shooting almost seven kilometres (five miles) north-west of the capital at Khey Khaneh. Soviet artillery was in action but the diplomats were not sure whether it was actually engaging rebels.

Tonight's rooftop protest was preceeded by an almost total blackout in the city as seemingly every Afghan household extinguished its lights. Then came a lone cry--"Allah Akbar"--which was taken up by hundreds, then thousands and then tens of thousands of people.

Strike, Less Fighting 23 Feb

BK231149 Hong Kong AFP in English 1128 GMT 23 Feb 80 BK

[Excerpts] Kabul, 23 Feb (AFP)--Soviet and Afghan troops clashed here again today with Muslim insurgents amid reports that hundreds may have died in gunbattles throughout the city yesterday.

The capital was nearly deserted, with office-workers staying away from their jobs in response to a call from the guerrillas.

Soviet MiG fighter jets continued to scream low over rooftops while Soviet-piloted helicopter gunships pinpointed pockets of resistance in the city of one million people. But the fighting was on a much smaller scale than yesterday when what appeared to be an organized and generalized insurrection erupted here.

One Western diplomat who picked up an injured man in the street and took him to Joumouriet Hospital counted more than 50 bodies on the floor waiting for burial. Another witness saw six civilians dead in the streets today following the renewed fighting this morning for the second day running.

Virtually all shops remained boarded up as part of the general strike that began on Thursday. Soviet troops, previously maintaining a low profile, were much more in evidence today guarding strategic points. There was a much greater show of military strength as if to intimidate local residents. Tanks and armored personnel carriers were visible all along the 10-km drive from a big hotel in the northwest of the city to the airport in the southeast.

The heaviest fighting yesterday and continuing resistance appeared to be around the ancient bazaar and in the Afshar area just beyond the Intercontinental Hotel, base for most Western reporters. There was a strong military guard around the Soviet microrayon housing facility on the road to the airport. Sporadic gunfire could be heard from various neighborhoods as well as machinegun fire from the APC's. There were roadblocks at most key intersections and traffic was being routed according to military dictates. Taxi and bus service was limited.

In the heart of the city, on the edge of the old bazaar and close to the municipality, thousands of demonstrators tore through the streets brandishing aloft the green banner of Islam. They also carried shoulder high a young man presumed to be one of the leaders of the underground Muslim movement who was woldly cheered.

The area around the people's palace--considered a target of the demonstrators--was sealed off by soldiers armed with submachineguns and by tanks and APC's.

The clashes continued almost all day and shooting could be heard from every corner of the city. Automatic rifle and machinegun fire was coupled with tank cannon blasts. Western diplomats said that Soviet MI-24 helicopter gunships fired some rockets as they circled--more than five at a time--around flashpoints in the city. But they said most of the firing came from tanks and APC's.

The severest clashes were in the bazaar in the southeast of the capital and in Afshar in the northwest. Several fires could be seen in the bazaar and most of yesterday's casualties are believed to have occurred there. Last night rebels hurled Molotov cocktails at patrolling tanks and burned out several, sources said.

Afghan snipers could be seen on rooftops shooting at soldiers on the main road. Helicopter gunships were called in to cow them but when this failed 12 Soviet T-55 and T-62 tanks were moved in to clear them. Western diplomats said that many Afghan tanks were being commanded by Soviets. Throughout the day the Soviet MIGs flew low over the city--sometimes only 100 feet above the ground. Soviet personnel carriers went to a technical school close to the hotel and evacuated Soviet women and children from the area to the Soviet embassy on the far side of the city.

By late afternoon most of the fighting subsided and only sporadic clashes could be heard.

Overnight the Soviets were dropping parachute flares and helicopters whirled overhead while tanks and APCs patrolled the streets. The rooftop cries of Allah Akbar died down last night.

Calm, Deserted Streets Reported

TA231538 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 23 Feb 80 TA

[From "Radio Newsreel"]

[Text] We now have a report from the Afghanistan capital, Kabul, saying the city is quiet following yesterday's big anti-Soviet demonstration. However, there are reports of some sporadic shooting, and shopkeepers are said to have largely ignored the government instructions to return to work as normal. Our correspondent in Delhi, Mark Tulley, has just been on the line with this dispatch:

[Begin Tulley recording] Western agency reports from Kabul speak of troops moving against pockets of resistance following yesterday's rioting. Diplomats in Kabul say that two hotels where foreigners were staying were attacked, but the basic picture which is emerging is of a calm city with deserted streets. Shops apparently remained closed for the third day running, and few people went to office in spite of a government order issued after martial law had been proclaimed, ordering civil servants to report for work.

There were contradictory reports about the role that Soviet Armed Forces played in quelling yesterday's riots. One correspondent reported from Kabul said that Soviet Armed Forces only provided air support by flying MiG-21 jet fighters and helicopters low over crowds to try and terrorize them. Other reports speak of Soviet armored personnel carriers and some even of tanks coming into the city center and taking up key positions.

Today the city is being patroled by Afghan troops, but a Soviet tank commander questioned Western correspondents about reported firing from the hill where their hotel is situated. A flight from Kabul reached Delhi today, indicating that the airport is open. Travelers on the plane spoke of heavy firing and many dead yesterday. One such citizen put the figure between 50 and 1000, but it's notoriously difficult to verify that sort of figure in Kabul at the best of times, let alone under martial law and an extended curfew. Mark Tulley, BBC, Delhi. [end recording]

Soviet Troops Seal Off Sections

BK241501 Hong Kong AFP in English 1432 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Excerpts] New Delhi, 24 Feb (AFP)--Soviet troops have cut Kabul in two and sealed off key areas from Moslem rebels who launched widespread disturbances on Friday, according to the latest reports reaching here from the Afghan capital.

As of 4:30 p.m. local yesterday, the Soviets were deployed in a cordoning pattern that split the city to further control resident's movements and vehicular traffic, already limited by a battery of roadblocks, the reports said. The reports, from reliable sources, said sporadic gunfire heard in the morning was dying down in the afternoon, leaving the city quiet but tense.

The casualty toll in Friday's disturbances--the first major anti-Soviet violence since the massive intervention in December--was put at 150 dead and 350 wounded.

The reports said Soviet troops had sealed off the Soviet embassy area and the old bazaar as well as the micro-rayon Russian housing complex and the Balah Khessar fortress, where Afghan troops reportedly rebelled in sympathy with the rebel uprising. They said there had been "tremendous intensification" of anti-Soviet hatred which was expected to lead to further outbursts.

An unconfirmed report said Afghan troops loyal to the Soviet-installed Babrak Karmal regime had confined their firing to above heads in the crowd, while theSoviets had shot directly into them.

Strike Continues 24 Feb

BK241603 Hong Kong AFP in English 1519 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Peshawar, northwest Pakistan, 24 Feb (AFP)--Strikes called in Afghanistan to protest the Soviet presence there continued today, although no demonstrations in the streets had been seen since Friday, travellers from Kabul reported. But several said they had heard shouts of "Allah Akbar" (God Is the Great) in the capital last night. And a Pakistani source said he saw bodies along Kabul streets on Friday.

Travellers estimated 500 to 1,000 people had been killed although the number was difficult to confirm. Soviet MI-24 assault helicopters were said to have fired in certain areas.

Meanwhile Soviet MIG's and helicopters today continued low-altitude reconnaissance flights over Kabul. Automatic gunfire could be heard intermittently. The bazaar was almost completely shut up, merchants having ignored government orders to resume business. Streets were deserted with the few cars in evidence being stopped and searched by armed civilians thought to be members of Soviet-backed Afghan leader Babrark Karmal's communist party. Several witnesses said that Afghan television yesterday evening showed dollars and Pakistani passports as proof that people recently arrested were part of an "imperialist" plot to overthrow the current regime."

Two Convoys Enter Kabul

BK250734 Hong Kong AFP in English 0731 GMT 25 Feb 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 25 Feb (AFP)--Two big convoys moved down a vital Soviet supply route to Kabul last night in an apparent effort to reinforce positions after continued gunfire there, reports reaching here from the Afghan capital said. As of midnight, gunfire was dying down following what was described as a stiff (?fire) fight in the Jadi Maiwand section, opposite the old bazaar, reports said.

The reports, from highly reliable sources, said rooftop chanting of Islamic slogans broke out again shortly after the 8 p.m. curfew imposed with martial law on Friday. Tracer fire lit up the night sky in a bid to halt the anti-Soviet outburst while official Afghan vehicles broadcast loudspeaker announcements thought to be appeals to desist.

The two big convoys streamed down the strategic road through the Salang Pass, the main Soviet supply route to the Afghan capital. The convoy traffic was described as "heavy" but there was no estimate of its exact size.

Separate reports from Kabul said the general strike which began on Thursday continued to paralyze city life today. But the tree-top flypasts of MIG fighter jets was said to have stopped. These reports said the virtually total shutdown of shops and the bazaar was beginning to be felt through food shortages. Bread was hard to get and meat was unavailable.

The highly reliable sources said last night's anti-Soviet chanting was "widespread, continuous and impressive" but less intense than that which erupted last Thursday night at the start of widespread disturbances.

The sources said sporadic gunfire punntuated the night after the start of the curfew, which has been moved up three hours to try to contain the insurrection, the first big outbreak of anti-Soviet violence since Moscow's armed intervention in December.

Meanwhile, Afghan television announced the arrest of one Robert Lee, an alleged agent of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, accused of fomenting the disturbances which reportedly have left hundreds of dead and wounded.

Armored vehicles were said to be patrolling the streets, many of which have been cordoned off in a bid to crush the Moslem rebels who have been fighting 22 months of Marxist rule in Kabul.

Rioting, Gunfire Reported 25 Feb

WA250755 London REUTER in English 0749 GMT 25 Feb 80 WA

[Text] Islamabad, Pakistan, Feb 25, REUTER--Radio Kabul today reported rioting, looting and gunfire in various parts of the Afghan capital in a fourth day of violent protests against the Soviet-backed government. At the same time, nationalist guerrilla organizations said here that at least 800 civilians had been killed in clashes with Soviet and Afghan troops since anti-government rioting started in Kabul last Friday.

AFP: SOLTAN 'ALI KESHTMAND'S REMAINS FLOWN FROM MOSCOW

OW231818 Hong Kong AFP in English 1814 GMT 23 Feb 80 OW

[Excerpt] Islamabad, Feb 23 (AFP)--The Afghan number three, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, vice-president of the Revolutionary Council, has died and his remains were flown back to Kabul from Moscow last Thursday, Afghan refugee sources said here today. According to one senior Afghan diplomat who fled the country on Thursday, Mr Keshtmand's coffin was given full military honors on return.

Officially, Mr Keshtmand, who was vice-premier and planning minister as well as council vice-president, left Kabul for medical treatment in the USSR last February 7. However reports in Kabul said that he was wounded in a shooting incident.

Afghan Denial Cited

BK250225 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 25 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The Afghan authorities have denied the report that Deputy Prime Minister Mr Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand has died from wounds said to have been received from gunfire in Kabul earlier this month. The Afghan Embassy in Moscow said Mr Keshtmand was recuperating in a Moscow hospital after receiving treatment for stomach ulcer.

BBC CITES GUERRILLAS ON HEAVY FIGHTING IN EAST

TA231622 London BBC World Service in English 1600 GMT 23 Feb 80 TA

[From "World News"]

[Text] Two Afghan guerrilla groups say there has been continued heavy fighting with the Afghan Army in eastern Afghanistan. Spokesmen in Pakistan for the two groups said fighting was taking place around the town of Jalalabad and in the (Jadran) area to the south. One group said Soviet aircraft had retaliated by bombing and strafing the northeastern province of Badakhshan. There has been no confirmation of the guerrilla's claims.

Fighting in Jalalabad

BK241639 Hong Kong AFP in English 1626 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan 24 Feb (AFP)--Clashes around the east Afghan town of Jalalabad have been continuing every night, while town residents have been following Kabul's lead in observing a general strike in protest of the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, various sources said here in concording reports. The sources said that all public transportation has been halted between the Afghan capital and the Pakistani border.

Jalalabad is about 80 kms (50 miles) from the border on the road linking Kabul and Peshawar via the Khyber Pass.

The situation inside Jalalabad, capital of Afghanistan's Nangarhar Province, remains tense, with clashes reported last night and early today in (Stokrod), on the town's outskirts, the sources added.

A Pakistani traveler said that a helicopter had sprayed a crowd inside a Jalalabad mosque with machinegun fire yesterday, but this report could not be confirmed. The traveler said he did not know whether there were any victims.

Positions Bombarded From USSR

BK241401 Hong Kong AFP in English 1324 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Peshawar, northwest Pakistan, 24 Feb (AFP)--Soviet long-range artillery and airplanes based inside the USSR have bombarded rebel positions in Afghanistan, a communique released today by the rebel organization Hezb-e Eslami Afghanistan said.

The Soviets sent shells across the Amu Darya River, which forms a natural frontier between the two countries, early last week during fighter in the Emam Saheb district, the Moslem group said. Approximately 700 people were reported killed in the battle, which destroyed the village of Kohe Daman. The Moslems said that a column of 250 Afghan and Soviet armored vehicles began a counter-attack around February 19 with heavy air and infantry support, but that the rebels retook the area after the column passed through. They accused the Soviets of killing civilians in the district of Dasht-e Archi in the same province. [as received]

The resistance is still strong in northeast Afghanistan's Badakhshan Province, the Moslem communique said. The organization called on the people of Afghanistan to "continue their strike until the defeat of the Soviet imperialists and their lackeys."

AFP CORRESPONDENT ON KABUL'S ANTI-U.S. PROPAGANDA

BK221315 Hong Kong AFP in English 1238 GMT 22 Feb 80 BK

[By Michael Lewis]

[Text] Kabul, 22 Feb (AFP)--A rash of propaganda posters has appeared on government offices and public buildings as Afghanistan's anti-U.S. campaign has become increasingly strident. Editorials in the state-owned newspapers attack President Jimmy Carter almost daily.

The Kabul NEW TIMES kicked off the latest campaign on February [date indistinct] with a front-page article belatedly devoted to Mr Carter's State of the Union Message of January 23 and an editorial with the headline: "Mr Carter, Mind Your Own Businesss." The paper accused him of distorting facts, of ignoring the problems in his own backyard, particularly those of blacks and Indians, and of smuggling mercenaries into Afghanistan through Pakistan. The paper said Mr Carter should stop "poking his nose into our affairs...and let our people live a prosperous life under the regime which belongs to them."

This editorial was followed up the next day by another headlined "Carter's Remarks Deplorable". It accuses the President of closing his eyes to the cruel rule of the previous regime overthrown by the Soviet-backed December 27 coup. It accused the U.S. of collusion with China in training terrorists "to carry out terrorist activities and provocative acts" inside Afghanistan to destabilize the country.

Yesterday the paper ran another editorial headed "Let Our People Live in Peace" and said that Mr Carter "as a champion of human rights" should respect the rights of the Afghan people to choose their own course of progress. After justifying Afghanistan's right to call for Soviet military help, the paper said Mr Carter should "rest assured that the limited Soviet military contingents...will leave this country after the existing problems are solved and the threat posed by imperialism is removed."

The current poster campaign against U.S. policy is especially conspicuous because of the ban on "leftist slogans" imposed only last month on the orders of the Babrak Karmal regime. The most widespread poster depicts an Afghan warrior about to bring his bayonet down on the head of a rebel holding a rifle stamped "Made in the U.S.A." The rebel is shown dropping a dagger emblazoned with a dollar sign on the handle. Behind the guerrilla is a Chinese face. Another poster shows a fist in the shape of Afghanistan smashing into the face of Uncle Sam, again with the Chinese face looking on.

NEWSMEN NOT PERMITTED ON FLIGHT TO KABUL FROM PAKISTAN

BK241227 Hong Kong AFP in English 1201 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Excerpt] Islamabad, 24 Feb (AFP)--Journalists trying to fly to Kabul from Pakistan were not permitted to board the plane for the Afghan capital today. Officials of Pakistan International Airways at Peshawar, in northwest Pakistan, said the Kabul government had asked the company not to transport any members of the press to Afghanistan.

BANGLADESH

YUGOSLAV FOREIGN SECRETARY VRHOVEC PAYS VISIT

BK230913 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0835 GMT 23 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia Josip Vrhovec arrived in Dacca this morning on a 2-day visit to Bangladesh. He was accompanied by a five-member delegation comprising high government officials.

Talking to newsmen at the airport, Mr Vrhovec said he was happy to be in Bangladesh as the two countries have age-old friendship between them. He said Bangladesh and Yugoslavia, as members of the nonalined group, will do their best to realize the principles of the movement.

The Yugoslav foreign minister said he is [word indistinct] planning to have fruitful discussions with the Bangladesh leaders. He said besides bilateral talks, he will also discuss regional and international issues of common concern. During his stay in the capital he will call on President Ziaur Rahman. He will also meet Deputy Prime Minister in Charge of Industries Jamaluddin Ahmed, Foreign Minister Prof Shamsul Haq and Minister for Power, Water Resources and Flood Control Kazi Anwarul Haq.

Formal talks between Bangladesh and Yugoslavia begin in Dacca tomorrow.

Holds Talks With Ministers

BK231726 Dacca Domestic Servic in English 1705 GMT 23 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Formal talks between Bangladesh and Yugoslavia begin in Dacca tomorrow. Yugoslav Foreign Minister Josip Vrhovec, who arrived in Dacca this morning on a 2-day visit to Bangladesh, called on Deputy Prime Minister Jamaluddin Ahmed and Foreign Minister Prof Shamsul Haq . During his meeting with the deputy prime minister, the Yugoslav foreign minister discussed the ongoing projects which are being implemented with Yugoslav assistance.

The Yugoslav minister, during his 1-hour meeting with the Bangladesh foreign minister, exchanged views on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest. The two foreign ministers will meet again tomorrow for official talks.

The Yugoslav foreign minister also called on Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Kazi Anwarul Haq in Dacca today. Kazi Anwarul Haq, who is also in charge of the Ministry for Power, Water Resources and Flood Control, had discussed with him on matters of mutual interest, with special reference to the power transmissions and the tourism projects in Bangladesh, where the two countries could collaborate profitably.

Dinner Speeches

BK240943 Dacca Overseas Service in English 0445 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Bangladesh Foreign Minister Prof Mohammad Shamsul Haq has reaffirmed that Bangladesh will continue to work for complete elimination of all causes of tension and conflicts in the world. Speaking at a dinner given in honor of the visiting Yugoslav foreign minister, Josip Vrhovec, in Dacca last night, he said the recent developments in Afghanistan have far-reaching regional and global implications. He said Bangladesh firmly believes that all foreign troops should be withdrawn from Afghanistan in accordance with the UN Charter and the principles of the nonalined movement. He also called for creating conditions so that the Afghan people can freely choose a government without any external interference whatsoever.

Professor Haq also said that his country is firmly committed to the (?cause of) strengthening the nonalinement movement and preservation and promotion of its unity. He said Bangladesh has been making sustained efforts for strengthening friendly relations with all countries, including its neighbors. He expressed the confidence that given a climate of trust and understanding, all problems could be resolved through peaceful negotiations.

In his speech the Yugoslav foreign minister expressed his country's serious concern on what he called the danger of deterioration of the international situation. He said his country cannot simply reconcile with the frequent use of force as well as intervention and imposition of (?foreign rule) on other sovereign states.

Referring to the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, Vrhovec said attempts to legalize such a policy in international affairs is jeopardizing the process of relaxation of international tension.

The Yugoslav foreign minister arrived in Dacca yesterday on a 2-day visit. Formal talks between the two countries begin in Dacca today.

Talks With Foreign Minister

BK241646 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Bilateral matters and regional and international issues of common concern were discussed during talks between the foreign ministers of Bangladesh and Yugoslavia in Dacca today. Yugoslav Foreign Minister Josip Vrhovec led his country's delegation at the talks.

Briefing newsmen after the talks, the Bangladesh foreign minister said the two countries have similarity of views on various regional and international issues. Progress of bilateral cooperation between the two countries in various economic fields was also reviewed.

The Yugoslav foreign minister, who was also present at the [words indistinct] he had discussed with the Bangladesh foreign minister the possibility of convening an extraordinary ministerial meeting of the nonalined countries to discuss the deteriorating international situation. He described the Afghan situation as very dangerous that (?threatens stability) in the Asian region.

The Yugoslav foreign minister called on President Ziaur Rahman in Dacca today. The Yugoslav minister has now left Dacca at the end of his 2-day visit to Bangladesh.

Joint Statement on Visit

BK250058 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Bangladesh and Yugoslavia have reiterated their readiness to continue to expand bilateral cooperation for strengthening their existing links in economic, cultural, scientific, technical and other fields. A joint press statement issued in Dacca today at the end of the 2-day visit of the Yugoslav foreign minister, Mr Josip Vrhovec, at the invitation of the Bangladesh foreign minister, Prof Shamsul Haq, said the two ministers expressed their satisfaction at the steady and favorable development of the overall relations between the two countries.

Referring to the talks the two foreign ministers held, the statement said that they exchanged views extensively on the current international situation and regional and bilateral matters. The two sides particularly reviewed the situation in Asia, the scene of deepening crisis, the statement added.

It said the talks were held in an extremely cordial atmosphere reflecting the mutual understanding and friendship which characterize the relations between two nonalined countries. The two ministers noted with satisfaction the identity of their views on most international issues and problems.

Leaves for New Delhi

BK250100 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The Yugoslav foreign minister left Dacca this evening for New Delhi. Speaking at a news conference prior to his departure, he said he had discussed with the Bangladesh side the possibility of convening an extraordinary ministerial level meeting of the nonalined countries on the deteriorating international situation. He said there exists very friendly feelings between the people of Bangladesh and Yugoslavia.

Referring to his meeting with President Ziaur Rahman, Mr Vrhovec said the meeting gave him an opportunity to convey to the Bangladesh leaders the feelings of President Tito on the international situation, which, he noted, was deteriorating fast. He said during talks with President Zia he had discussed various steps to strengthen the nonalined movement and to keep the movement outside any bloc in the big-power rivalry groups. The Bangladesh foreign minister was also present during the press conference.

ROMANIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER NICULESCU ARRIVES

BK241729 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Paul Niculescu arrived in Dacca today on a 5-day visit to discuss bilateral cooperation in economic, cultural and political fields between Bangladesh and Romania. Mr Niculescu, who is leading a 10-member government delegation, was received at the airport by Deputy Prime Minister Jamaluddin Ahmed and senior government officials.

Talking to newsmen at the Dacca airport, Mr Niculescu said that during the talks with Bangladesh leaders the delegation would discuss the existing cooperation besides examining other areas of economic collaboration between the two countries. Formal talks between the two countries begin in Dacca tomorrow.

Formal Talks Open

BK250926 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 25 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Bangladesh and Romania have reviewed the progress of existing bilateral cooperation and explored the possibility of further expansion of cooperation between them in different fields. At the formal talks in Dacca this morning, the two countries also examined the progress achieved in different fields, particularly since the visit of President Zia to Romania. The Bangladesh side at the talks was led by the minister for finance, Dr M.N. Huda, while the 10-member Romanian team was led by Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Mr Paul Niculescu.

Talking to newsmen afterwards, Dr M.N. Huda said Romania has promised to come [word indistinct] in a big way to assist Bangladesh during the second 5-year plan. The two sides set up two committees at the talk for reviewing trade relations and specific projects.

The leader of the Romanian delegation said that both the sides examined the scope of future development of economic cooperation between Bangladesh and Romania. They also explored the possibility of cooperation in other fields, including natural gas, textile industry and the public transport system. He also said that they will continue their discussions.

VICE PRESIDENT SATTAR LEAVES FOR VISIT TO IRAQ

BK231606 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Vice President Mr Justice Abdus Sattar left Dacca this afternoon for Baghdad on a 4-day official visit to Iraq. The vice president, who is visiting Iraq at the invitation of the Iraqi vice president, told newsmen at the airport that he would discuss bilateral matters and the international situation with the Iraqi leaders. He said he was carrying a letter from President Ziaur Rahman for President Saddam Husayn of Iraq.

OPPOSITION MEMBERS ATTEND PARLIAMENT SESSION

BK231018 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 22 Feb 80 BK

[Excerpts] Three opposition groups and an independent member joined the Jatiya Sangsad [parliament] session this evening. The opposition groups were the Muslim League, the IDL [Islamic Democratic League] and the Gano Front. As they entered the house led by their leaders, the members of the treasury bench greeted them with loud applause.

Later, Khan A. Sabur of the Muslim League and A.S.M. Solaiman of the Gano Front moved similar adjournment motions relating to Russian intervention in Afghanistan and the situation arising out of this. The motions are to be discussed in the house on Monday.

NAP Leader To Join Session

BK241638 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Prof Muzaffar Ahmed of National Awami Party has decided to join the current session of Jatiya Sangsad [parliament] from tomorrow.

INDIA

SPOKESMAN ON REGIONAL DEFENSE ARRANGEMENT

BK221524 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1518 GMT 22 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry on 22 February clarified that at no point did the United States ask India to join Pakistan and China in a regional defense arrangement soon after the Soviet Union sent its forces to Afghanistan, reports PTI.

When his attention was drawn to a news report from Singapore quoting Indian High Commissioner Oza, the spokesman told newsmen that the question of India accepting or refusing such a proposal did not arise.

In any case, the spokesman added, India's views about defence alliances are well known. India has been traditionally against military and defence alliances.

Meanwhile the government is awaiting the authentic text of Oza's speech.

SOVIET DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ARKHIPOV CONTINUES VISIT

Rao Luncheon Speech

BK221527 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1515 GMT 22 Feb 80 BK

[Text] External Affairs Minister Narashimha Rao on 22 February said that India valued the Soviet Union as an old and trusted friend and both were inspired by the desire to cooperate with each other on the basis of sovereign equality and for mutual benefit, reports PTI. Proposing a toast to the ever growing and lasting cooperation and friendship between the two countries at a lunch hosted in honour of the Soviet deputy prime minister, I.V. Arkhipov, he said that the Bhilai steel plant was a vibrant symbol of Indo-Soviet economic cooperation and was a significant landmark in the development of India's steel industry.

The external affairs minister conveyed India's sense of gratitude for the Soviet Union's help and cooperation in the past, particularly in the crucial sectors of heavy industry, ferrous metallurgy, oil prospecting and pharmaceutical industry. He said it was largely because of this cooperation we are now well on the road to self-reliant development in this and other sectors.

The warm friendship and understanding between our two countries have provided a solid foundation for these impressive achievements, he said.

Talks With Rao

BK221620 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Feb 80 BK

[Excerpt] The visiting Soviet deputy prime minister, Mr Arkhipov, had an hour-long discussion with the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, in New Delhi today. A broad outline of economic cooperation between the two countries, including trade, development of natural resources, science and technology and heavy industry, figured in the talks. Mr Narasimha Rao was assisted by the foreign secretary, Mr R.D. Sathe, and senior officials of the Economic Ministry.

Rally at Bhilai

BK231613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Feb 80 BK

[Text] India and the Soviet Union are likely to collaborate in setting up a steel plant in Nigeria and a nuclear power plant in Libya. Commerce and Steel Minister Pranab Mukerjee said that an offer made by the Hindustan Steel Works construction in this regard is being considered by the Soviet authorities. He was speaking at the silver jubilee celebrations of the India-Soviet techno-economic cooperation in Bhilai today. Mr Mukerjee said that India has built up a very sophisticated industrial base and is now in a position to cooperate with the Soviet Union in the third countries on a mutually beneficial basis.

Taking part in the celebrations, Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Arkhipov said that more than 17 industrial and other projects have been built by the joint efforts of the two countries.

In a message, Soviet President Brezhnev said that Bhilai is a symbol of friendship between the Soviet Union and India. He said Jawaharlal Nehru, who had called Bhilai a harbinger of India's future, stood at the source of this cooperation.

A mass rally was organized in Bhilai today to mark the 25th anniversary of the India-Soviet economic and technical cooperation. Addressing the rally, Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Arkhipov said that the people of his country are deeply convinced that further development of relations between the Soviet Union and India on the basis of the treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation will facilitate progress and prosperity of the two countries. It will also serve the interest of peace in Asia and elsewhere.

Arkhipov at Bhilai Rally

BK231556 Hong Kong AFP in English 1417 GMT 23 Feb 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 23 Feb (AFP)--Visiting Soviet Deputy Prime Minister I.V. Arkhipov today emphasised that the 1971 Indo-Soviet friendship treaty was in the interest of both countries as well as peace in Asia and elsewhere.

Mr Arkhipov was speaking at a mass rally at the Soviet-built Bhilai steel complex at Bhilai, central India, on the occasion of the silver jubilee of Indo-Soviet economic cooperation. The launching of the Bhilai project 25 years ago, now the biggest of the four integrated steel plants in the state sector, marked the beginning of modern India's economic cooperation with that country. The Bhilai plant has a production capacity of 2.5 million tonnes.

"Today everyone sees how rich are the fruits of Soviet-Indian friendship. It has long since become one of the most precious achivements of the two great peoples, the fruits of their minds and hearts," the Soviet leader said.

Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev in a message on the occasion described the Bhilai project as a "symbol of friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and India."

Mr Arkhipov noted that the Soviet Union was now cooperating with India in over 70 industrial and other projects already built or being constructed in this country. The Bhilai steel plant itself was being expanded to a 4 million tonnes capacity, Mr Arkhipov further noted.

Indian Commerce Minister Pranab Mukerjee, who also spoke on the occasion, said that the people of India, "immensely" valued the friendship and cooperation between the two countries. He expressed the hope that this cooperation would further develop to the mutual benefit of both India and the Soviet Union.

YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTER VRHOVEC ARRIVES FOR VISIT

BK250258 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Yugoslav Foreign Minister Mr Josip Vrhovec arrived in New Delhi last night on a 4-day official visit to the country. Speaking to newsmen at the airport, Mr Vrhovec said he will discuss with Indian leaders both international and bilateral matters. He described relations between the two countries as very good.

During his stay in the capital he will hold talks with the prime minister and the external affairs minister. He will also call on the president.

Earlier in Dacca, the Yugoslav leader said that he had discussed with the Bangladesh leaders the possibility of convening an extraordinary ministerial level meeting of the nonalined countries on the deteriorating international situation.

KING OF BHUTAN PAYS 4-DAY VISIT TO DELHI

BK221253 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 22 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The king of Bhutan, Jigme Singye Wangchuk, arrived in New Delhi this afternoon on a 4-day visit. He was received at the airport by the president, Mr Neelam Sanjiva Reddy; the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi; and the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao. Ambassadors of both the countries were also present.

Speaking to newsmen at the airport the Bhutan king said that his visit is mainly to further consolidate the existing good relations between India and Bhutan. He said that he will discuss regional and bilateral matters with Indian leaders. Replying to a question, the Bhutan king said that no specific matter will be discussed but any point about which both the countries share concern will be covered. Official talks will begin tomorrow.

The president is giving a banquet tonight in honor of the visiting dignitary.

Talks With Gandhi 22 Feb

BK221635 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The king of Bhutan, Jigme Singye Wanchuk, who is now in New Delhi on a 4-day official visit, had a brief talk with the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, this afternoon. Mrs Gandhi called on the king at Rashtrapati Bhavan [presidential residence] shortly after his arrival from Thimbu by special aircraft. The prime minister was followed by the vice president, Mr Hidayatullah, and the external affairs minister, Mr Narashimha Rao. The king later called on the president, Mr Sanjiva Reddy. The president is giving a banquet tonight in honor of the visiting dignitary.

The king is accompanied by his foreign minister, Dawa Tsering, and other government officials. Tommorow the king will have formal talks [words indistinct]. The Bhutanese officials will have separate discussions with the ministers of communications and energy.

Earlier, the king was received at the airport by Mr Sanjiva Reddy, Mrs Gandhi, Mr P.V. Narashimha Rao. In a statement the king declared that he has come to India to reaffirm, strengthen and consolidate the Indo-Bhutan relations.

Banquet Speeches

BK230358 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 Feb 80 BK

[Text] India and Bhutan have reaffirmed their desire to further strengthen mutual understanding and friendship.

Speaking at a banquet given in honor of the king of Bhutan, Jigme Singye Wangchuk, in New Delhi last night, President Sanjiva Reddy said the king's visit will give added momentum and content to our relations. Referring to India's association with Bhutan in the task of its socioeconomic transformation, Mr Reddy expressed the hope that Bhutan will continue to face the new challenges with determination under King Wangchuk's leadership.

In his reply, King Wangchuk spoke of the common links that bind India and Bhutan together. We appreciate the enlightened thinking of the Indian leaders which enabled Bhutan to take a big leap from the past in a short span of time, he said. The king expressed deep concern over the recent developments in the region. He said as a champion of the nonalined movement they expect India to play a major role in defusing the situation and insuring peace and stability in the area.

23 Feb Talks With Gandhi

BK231304 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 23 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has assured the visiting king of Bhutan of India's continued cooperation and help to the Himalayan kingdom. King Jigme Singye Wangchuk had talks with Mrs Gandhi for about 2 hours in New Delhi. The talks were followed by a lunch hosted by the prime minister in honor of the king.

Later, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry told newsmen that the discussions covered bilateral matters and the developments in the region. They were held in a very friendly and cordial atmosphere. Both sides agreed that there were no problems affecting India-Bhutan relations. The prospects of further cooperation between the two countries figured in the talks.

Mrs Gandhi was assisted during the talks by External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao and Foreign Secretary R.D. Sathe. The Bhutanese side included Foreign Minister Dawa Tsering and Ambassador of Bhutan in Inda Lyonpo Sangye Penjor.

King Comments on Talks

BK241651 Hong Kong AFP in English 1317 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Delhi, 24 Feb (AFP)--Visiting King Jigme Singye Wangchuk of Bhutan today said if the 1949 Indo-Bhutan treaty does not create any problems, there was no need to discuss it with India. The young monarch of the tiny Himalayan kingdon indicated his remarks would hold good even if instead of one treaty, there were a hundred. What was important was whether any difficulty was being experienced in the implementation of the treaty. "We give priority to practice. There is no problem in practice," he said replying to reporters questions here at an informal chat with them.

The king, who last year in a press interview said that he favored a revision of the treaty under which Bhutan is guided by Indian advice in foreign affairs and defense, however, asserted that Bhutan must take the final decision on matters affecting the country's interests.

Referring to his talks with Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi and others, the [word indistinct] who arrived here on Friday, said he was going back to Bhutan tomorrow "very satisfied" with his talks on bilateral matters and regional developments. He said that there was "complete indentity of views" with India regarding assessment of developments in the region.

Bhutan's policy and thinking, he said, was against any country interfering in another's affairs.

"We are against any arms build-up in the region. We are a developing country and have economic problems. Arms build-up will have tremendous repercussions", he added.

On the question of 4,000 Tibetan refugees' refusal to accept Bhutan citizenship, the king said "We are confident that it can be resolved very soon". However, he did not spell out on what lines a solution could be arrived at.

"Bhutan cannot accept or afford to take the risk of creating a Tibetan state within Bhutan", he added.

Concludes Visit

BK250747 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 25 Feb 80 BK

[Text] King of Bhutan Jigme Singhye Wangchuk was given a warm sendoff when he left New Delhi today at the end of his 4-day official visit. He was seen off at the airport by the president, the prime minister, and the external affairs minister.

After his departure, Mrs Gandhi told newsmen that it was a normal visit. She said it is important that we should keep meeting frequently to exchange views.

OMAN SULTAN'S SPECIAL ENVOY ARRIVES FOR TALKS

BK241026 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] A special envoy of the sultan of Oman arrived in New Delhi today on a 2-day visit. The envoy, Sa'id Fahar ibn Taymur, is Oman's deputy prime minister in charge of security and defense. He will hold talks with Prime Minister Gandhi and External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao.

HOME MINISTER HOLDS TALKS IN ASSAM ON SITUATION

BK221714 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The union home minister, Gyani Zail Singh, has appealed to the All-Assam Students Union and other concerned organizations to end their agitation on the issue of foreign nationals in Assam. He said in Gauhati today that complete normalcy is essential for correcting and completing the electoral rolls. He said the government will insure the cultural identity of Assamese people is not jeopardized. The home minister had prolonged discussions with the leaders of the All-Assam Students Union today. Practical ways to deal effectively with the problem of foreign nationals were discussed during the talks lasting 3 hours.

The All India Radio special correspondent, (Harish Segon), reports from Gauhati that the discussions were held in a cordial atmosphere. The minister also had two rounds of talks with the governor, Mr L. P. Singh, who apprised him about the situation in Assam. The home minister also met the representatives of political organizations.

Gandhi on Assam Problems

BK221716 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Speaking to IAS [Indian Administrative Service] probationers in New Delhi, the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, said that the center will do everything possible for the speedy solution of the problem in Assam. She said the people of the state feel cut off, being far away from the center and also due to lack of proper communication. The real problem is unemployment among the educated youths. She pointed out that it is not correct that a majority of government servants in Assam are non-Assamese. However, she said, the problem has to be seen sympathetically. Referring to her meeting with the student leaders of Assam, the prime minister said they are sincere and concerned about the future [word indistinct]. She added the students were also worried about the extremists taking advantage of the crisis.

Describing the economic situation of the country as very bad, Mrs Gandhi observed that it will be a long way and hard task to improve it. She emphasized that social reforms should be speeded up, otherwise incidents of violence will be larger.

The prime minister told the probationers that administrators should always remember that they are servants of the people. Their ability lies in getting people's cooperation in nation-building activities.

Home Minister's Remarks

BK250322 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Home Minister Mr Zail Singh has said the government is prepared to accept the 1971 voters list as the basis for determination of foreign nationals [in Assam]. He told a news conference in Gauhati late last night, after long discussions with various political parties, that the current agitation should be immediately called off. This, he said, will create the necessary conditions to enable the center to initiate various measures to solve the issue. According to agency reports, most of the parties, except the People's Democratic Front, have agreed to accept 1971 as the base year. Student leaders are said to be insisting that 1951 should be the base year.

The home minister is reported to have told them during the talks that the government is not in a position to accept 1951 as the base year because of international agreements. Besides, more than 200,000 foreign nationals were deported from Assam between 1951 and 1968.

SANJAY GANDHI FILES APPLICATION AGAINST OPPOSITION LEADER

BK230550 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 Feb 80 BK

[Text] A Delhi subjudge has ordered the issue of notice to Mr Ram Jethmalani, member of Parliament, on an application made by Mr Sanjay Gandhi alleging that he has committed offenses by making wrong statements and using false evidence in the court in connection with the Kisa Kursi Ka [satire film entitled "Story of a Chair"] case. Mr Gandhi alleged in his application that Mr Jethmalani had openly declared in the central hall of Parliament a few days before the judgment in the case that he had the commission order in his pocket. He further alleged that Mr Jethmalani had told some Lucknow advocates that the Kisa Kursi Ka case was a drama and, irrespective of evidence, he would secure conviction.

Congress-I leaders Vasant Sathe, Bhisma Narain Singh and Venkatasubbiah and three Lucknow advocates have filed affidavits supporting Mr Sanjay Gandhi's contention. Mr Ram Jethmalani, who was earlier a special prosecutor in the Kisa Kursi Ka case, has denied the charges in his counter affidavit.

COURT PERMITS WITHDRAWAL OF CASES AGAINST FORMER MINISTER

BK221430 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 22 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The Punjab and Haryana High Court today allowed the Union of India to withdraw two criminal cases against the former defense minister [in Indira Gandhi's cabinet], Mr Bansi Lal, his son, Mr (Surinder Singh) and others. The two revision petitions had been filed by the Union of India in November last year against the order of the special judge of Bhiwani permitting the withdrawal of two cases against Mr Bansi Lal and others. One case related to alleged demolition of certain properties at (?Bhiwani), while the other was regarding alleged acquisition of plots. Dismissing the petition, Mr Justice (K.S.Diwana) observed that a similar case filed at the instance of Mr (Manoharlal), a private party, is pending in the Supreme Court. He ruled that the High Court could not examine the legality or propriety of the order in such a situation.

PAKISTAN

GOVERNMENT DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN KABUL INCIDENTS

BK231534 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 23 Feb 80 BK

[Text] A Foreign Office statement issued in Islamabad today totally refuted Kabul radio's allegations that Pakistani citizens were involved in some way in the recent widespread demonstrations in Kabul and other regions of Afghanistan. The statement condemns the propaganda campaign launched by the Afghan Government with the aim of involving Pakistan in the countrywide opposition to the Afghan Government.

The statement adds that the Pakistan Government considers it important that normal conditions return to Afghanistan so that the refugees can return to their homes in peaceful conditions and with honor and dignity. Pakistan deeply respects the sovereignty and independence of Afghanistan and its people and it hopes that normal conditions will return to Afghanistan.

Pakistan once again expresses its policy that it is not interested in interfering in Afghanistan's internal affairs and that it will not allow its territory to be used for any action against Afghanistan.

The statement says Pakistan has noted with concern the arbitrary arrest of Pakistani citizens in Afghanistan and it will use all its resources to protect its citizens rights and (?aspirations).

Afghan Refugees Cited

BK241037 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1000 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] According to ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, about 24 officers of the Afghan militia and two members of parliament and the principal of Ibn Sina College in Kabul have crossed over to Pakistan. According to the political agent of the South Waziristan, the group left Afghanistan under the leadership of Mr (Ahmad Jan Masud), who holds the rank of a major general, as a protest against the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The leader of the Afghan officers has said the Afghans have risen against the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan as they were true Muslims and could not tolerate foreign intervention in Afghanistan.

FRANCE'S OLIVIER STERN ARRIVES FOR TALKS

BK250518 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 25 Feb 80 BK

[Text] French Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Mr Olivier Stirn arrived in Islamabad this morning on a 3-day visit to Pakistan. In an airport interview to radio Pakistan's correspondent, Mr Stirn said that he will particularly discuss the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Mr Stirn said France is deeply interested in the Afghan refugees issue on humanitarian grounds.

The French secretary of state said another objective of his visit is to exchange views on bilateral relations between France and Pakistan. He said France will further consolidate these relations and they will identify sectors in which mutual cooperation can be further strengthened.

SHAHI DOES NOT WANT TO DEPEND ON U.S. FOR SECURITY

BK230302 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 23 Feb 80 BK

[Text] Foreign Affairs Adviser Agha Shahi has said that countries which are not at present willing to provide military aid would be welcome to extend economic assistance without any conditions, as Pakistan does not want to compromise its policy of nonalinement.

In an interview with a Brussels daily, he said Pakistan's policy is not to place itself in a position of total dependence on the United States for its security. He emphasized that Pakistan wants to be self-reliant as much as possible and what it lacked in military strength would have to be supplemented by political relationships.

Replying to a question, Agha Shahi said we have heard reports that the Soviet Union might initiate a dialog, but nothing official has been said.

Commentator Expands on Stance

BK241153 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1715 GMT 23 Feb 80 BK

[News commentary by Mukhtar Zaman]

[Text] President Ziaul Haq's Foreign Affairs Advisor Agha Shahi, in his latest statement, has given a clear outline of Pakistan's foreign policy currently being pursued in the background of recent events in Afghanistan.

In an interview with a Brussels daily, DE STANDARD, Shahi did some plain talking. He said that Pakistan is following a deliberately cautious policy toward the United States. Pakistan also did not close the door for dialog with the Soviet Union. The salient points made by the adviser are as follows: Pakistan did not wish to place itself in the position of total dependence on the United States. Pakistan would like to welcome economic aid with no strings attached. A $200 million military credit offered by the United States was not accepted by Pakistan because it was not very meaningful in terms of Pakistan's requirements. But the United States has assured Pakistan that it stood by her in accordance with the 1959 bilateral agreement.

Shahi agreed with the view that the West had taken Pakistan for granted. Pakistan is trying to follow a policy of self reliance as far as possible. Shahi's statement, as seen in the light of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and the United States reaction to this move, proves that the foreign policy of this country is not governed by ad hocism, nervousness and emotionalism. It is based on a cool and deliberate calculation of events. Let us see how things stand today.

As everyone knows the United States was taken aback by the sudden turn of events in Afghanistan. It was already involved in the trouble in Iran. Washington felt that its interests in the Gulf area and its sources of oil were under the Soviet threat. Till then Washington had been following a policy which was not very accomodating toward Pakistan. It had put its foot down on the question of nuclear reprocessing plant and had stopped even economic aid to Pakistan. But the moment its own interests were threatened, it took certain steps to mollify Pakistan. The ban on economic aid was lifted. No less a person than Brzezinski came to Pakistan to have talks with Pakistani leaders and officials including the president. A U.S. mission was also dispatched to Pakistan to make an assessment of its requirements.

Military and economic aid of $400 million for 2 years was announced. Pakistan behaved with calm confidence. It did not jump at the aid offer. It studied the situation calmly. The reason was obvious. Pakistan is no more a member of any military pact. It cannot be expected to behave like a camp follower of the West. Pakistan is now a member of the nonalined group. It does not wish to involve itself in the superpower rivalry, nor does it have any intention of acting as anybody's instrument in this region. It is also an important member of the Islamic countries organization. Therefore Pakistan adopted a policy generally in line with the Islamic countries' sentiments. It hosted the conference of Islamic foreign ministers which gave a categorical call for the evacuation of Soviet troops from Afghanistan which is an Islamic country and also a member of the nonalined group. On this issue Pakistan is not alone. An overwhelming majority of the UN members have given a similar call. Most of the Islamic countries have also asked the Soviet Union to leave Afghanistan alone. Pakistan is therefore doing what the representatives of the majority of the world population are taking and asking for. [sentence as heard]

Pakistan's experience of Western aid has guided her to adopt the policy on the offer of American aid. No doubt Pakistan is in dire need of both military and economic aid. But it wants aid without conditions and aid which is substantial to make an impact on the situation. A pittance of an aid, which will make little difference to her economic wellbeing but which may well attract the odium and anger of others, would not be worthwhile. As a nonalined Muslim independent country, Pakistan must adopt a policy of self-reliance which means hard work and help without conditions. Shahi has made it quite clear that Pakistan is also ready to talk with Moscow and Kabul after the foreign forces are withdrawn from Afghanistan. The reason is obvious. No talk under the shadow of bayonets is of any value. It is a reasonable attitude and the world must see reason and be guided by it.

CABINET DISCUSS INTERNAL, EXTERNAL SITUATION

BK241536 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 24 Feb 80 BK

[Text] The internal and external situation in the light of the current events in Afghanistan was discussed at a meeting of the federal cabinet in Rawalpindi today. Chief Martial Law Administrator Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq presided.

Interior Minister Mahmud A. Haroon and Adviser on Foreign Affairs Agha Shahi apprised the cabinet of the internal and external situation, respectively. The cabinet expressed satisfaction with the internal and external situation in the light of details presented. The cabinet members also exchanged views on the program of the national convention of local bodies due to be held in Islamabad on the 5th and 6th of next month.